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Volume XXI Number 5

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

February 5, 1998



AHS ENGLISH TEACHER LARRY O'BRIEN (far right) with the Journalism I students who wrote, edited, and published the World War II newspaper "The Freedom Way": Shawn Biebel, Jennifer Plamondon, Matt Smith, Kristen Kocot, Nicole Koehler, Eric Mancini, Ann Paquette, Sarah Latif, Michelle Heim, and Jessica Montagna. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Council Passes 1st Reading Of Cell Tower Ordinance...

ZBA Receives Authority On Cell Tower Special Permits

by Kathy Cassanelli

Town Council took the first step in setting e and location of cell guidelines to control the siphone transmitting towers by approving the first reading of an ordinance recommended by town planners.

With one councilor absent and one abstaining, the vote was unanimous in favor of an amended version of the zoning change approved by the Planning Board last week.

On Monday night, Councilor Gina Letellier introduced an amendment incorporating the one suggestion proposed by the council at its last meeting, which was not included in the Planning Board's recommendation.

In a 6-3 vote, the council amended the or-dinance giving the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), rather than the Planning Board, the authority to issue the special permit required as part of the permitting process for cell towers. Voting against the amendment were Councilors Nancy

Thompson, Jill Simpson, and George Bitzas.
Planning Director Deborah Dachos said the
Planning Board members felt it made sense for their board to grant the special permits as part of the detailed site plan review process.

"The Planning Board has no objection to the ZBA other than this is going to add a time constraint," Ms. Dachos said. "I'm sure they'll do a good job, but it will be duplicative."

In support of her amendment, Ms. Letellier said the ZBA has an excellent record in dealing with legal issues in writing special permits, and that the authority for granting special permits should remain with a board elected by the council, rather than a board appointed by one person. (Planning Board members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by a simple majority of the council.)

Councilor Edward Caba said having the ZBA as the special permit granting authority added an extra check and balance for the town's protection.

Several councilors praised the work done by a committee of four in researching and drafting the ordinance which limits cell towers to a height of 190 feet and identifies nine specific parcels of

land where towers may be erected. The overlay zoning district where towers may be located includes Provin Mountain, Riverside Park, Bondi's Island, parts of the Agawam

SEE CELL TOWER - Page 2...

From AHS's Journalism I Class...

World War II Newspaper Hot Off The Press

by Kathy Cassanelli News Editor

A front-page story relates the devastating effects of America's decision to drop an atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. Cartoons depict young people making the best of clothing shortages: "Fellows, don't worry about

going without cravats ... it's the style!"

The sports page laments the dearth of athletic talent now that the likes of Joe DiMaggio, Ted Williams, and Joe Louis have gone to war. The williams, and Joe Louis nave gone to war. The entertainment pages feature rave reviews for "Casablanca" and "Mrs. Miniver." Two ty-five year-old singing sensation Frank Sinatra is traveling the country in a sold-out concert tour.

Advertisements for Pauline's Beauty Shop, Stella's Restaurant, Tinti's, and Vincent's Market

are sprinkled through the 16 pages, along with ads for war bonds and posters denouncing the

'careless talk' that costs lives.
A newspaper filled with news, reviews, and editorials from the 1940's should be yellowed and crumbling after more than 50 years. But, The Freedom Way looks like it was just printed last week - because it was.

week — pecause it was.

The newspaper was written, edited, and published by the Agawam High School Journalism I class taught by English teacher Larry O'Brien as preparation for joining the staff of the high school newspaper, the *Mirror*. Usually, the students work from a textbook on writing assignments designed to teach journalistic skills and give students experience with the different and give students experience with the different writing styles used by news, feature, editorial, and

sports writers. O'Brien said the idea to have the students produce their own newspaper grew out of a project based on a learning seminar he is taking with English teacher Dawn Fisher through the Department of Education. The tie-in to World War II is the result of the success of last November's Intergenerational Week, which brought senior citizens to the school to share their war ex-

periences with the students. Funding to print the 1,500 copies of The Freedom Way came from the School Improvement Council.

The paper features international and national stories, but the main focus is on the town of Agawam and the effect of the war on people living

here.
"I made it a community project because I wanted the students to use our own yearbooks and school newspapers from the 40's in doing their research," O'Brien said. "They did a great job and they learned a lot about the history of World War II."

Thrilled to see their work published, Freedom Way staffers agreed they had worked hard and learned more than they could in a history class about WWII, both on the battlefields and on the

SEE WWII - Page 2...

WWII - from Page 1...

Leadership And Journalistic Skills... Associate Editor Michelle Heim said she learned as much about leadership skills as she did about journalism

"As a journalist, I found out I could write decent stories if I put my mind to it. As the associate editor, I found out that some things come before other things — like having to tell my friends they had to get their work done."

Editor-in-Chief Sarah Latif found a link to her father in writing a story about one of his most beloved sports icons, Ted Williams, and she found out some things that never make the history books, like a German POW escape from a prison camp in Arizona.

At first, Sarah felt a little overwhelmed by the daunting task of putting the paper together, but the quality of the editors and the writers produced so much material it was hard to choose which articles to include.

"Seeing the finished product was so amazing,"

Sarah said.

For Interview Editor Kristen Kocot, her job became a family affair as she arranged for her grandparents, Fran & Lynne Moore, to come to school to be interviewed by her staff.

"My grandfather had been telling us stories and I thought he'd enjoy coming in and telling about his experience," Kristen said. "They were honored to do it and they were glad to be asked."
In her interview with Kristen's grandmother,

Nicole Koehler discovered that Lynne Moore was six years-old when the war started.

"Mrs. Moore remembered she had to stand in line with her mother for butter and meat. But, children didn't understand the importance of the war; what was important to her was having her grandfather take her out for ice cream," Nicole

Hearing about the war through a child's point of view made her realize "something of this enormity could happen to us," Nicole said.

Staffers agreed working on the paper gave a new dimension to their writing and to their motivation in a way unlike the writing classes they've taken before because they were working toward a real-world product, not just a collection of writing assignments

Copies of *The Freedom Way* are free and can be obtained at the Agawam Public Library, the Agawam Senior Center, Town Hall, the town's American Legion and VFW Posts, the libraries at Agawam Junior High School and AHS, and at The

Agawam Advertiser News

CELL TOWER - from Page 1...

Regional Industrial Park, a parcel of land owned by Western Massachusetts Electric Company, and the four golf courses.

Under the proposed ordinance, telecommunications companies must post a performance bond to ensure that towers are dismantled and sites are returned to their original state when no longer us-

ed as transmitting stations.

Other Requirements Of The Ordinance...

The ordinance also requires a setback of 750 feet from any building and force set telecommunication. tions companies to pay for camouflaging the towers and hiring an expert consultant to advise the Planning Board during the site plan review.

Having attended a "standing room only"

seminar on cell tower ordinances sponsored by the Massachusetts Municipal Association, Coun-cilor Jill Simpson noted, "We were given a checklist for ordinances on cell towers and every item that was suggested is noted in our or-

dinance.' Under a 1996 federal law, the town can regulate the towers, but not prohibit them or enact regulations that would unnecessarily restrict the com-petitiveness of the industry. Also, the town cannot enact regulations based on environmental issues related to the emission of electromagnetic radia-

The proposed amendment to the zoning code was drafted by a four-member committee comprised of Ms. Dachos, Town Solicitor Thomas Locke, former Council President Kent Servis, and Planning Board member Frank Lawlor. Voting in favor of the first reading of the proposed zoning change were Council President Donald Rheault and Councilors Edward Caba, Nancy Thompson, George Bitzas, Jill Simpson, Dennis Perry, Robert Young, Gary Geiger, and Gina

Letellier.

Councilor John Negrucci was absent.
Council Vice-President Robert Magovern abstained from the vote because he owns property in one of the newly created wireless communications districts. He was not required to leave council chambers during the debate and the vote as outlined by the council president in setting ground rules for parliamentary debate last month.

Rheault said he had been unaware that

Magovern was going to abstain from the vote until just before the roll call vote was taken.

"I passed him (Magovern) a note explaining that the next time he is abstaining, he should excuse himself from the council chambers," Rheault

According to the state Ethics Commission, a public official who is going to abstain from a vote should notify the chairman ahead of time and should then leave the room during the discussion and vote in order to avoid influencing the outcome. Even eye contact can be construed as influence, Rheault said.

As council president, Rheault said he can request that a councilor leave the room if they plan to abstain from a vote, but he cannot force them

Magovern said he full supports the ordinance and has no intention of hosting a cell tower on his

Agawam Police Department Arrest Blotter For January 26th-30th

On January 26th, Robert G. Cizek of 46 Vadnais Street, Agawam, was arrested and charged with breaking & entering in the nighttime with intent to

commit a felony. Arresting officers were Thomas Marmo and Det. Gary O'Brien.

On January 26th, Christopher M. Ducharme of 21 Nassau Street, Chicopee, was arrested and charged with shoplifting. Arresting officer was

On January 29th, Sharon Dutton of 101 Miller Street, Springfield, was arrested and charged with uttering a false prescription and an outstanding warrant. Arresting officer was Joseph Edwards.
On January 30th, James E. Chouinard of 23
Adams Street, Ludlow, was arrested and charged with speeding, driving without a license, driving under the influence of alcohol (third offense), and failure to stay within marked lanes. Arresting officer was Steven Grasso.

On January 30th, Anthony Dimatteo of 184 Tobacco Farms Road, Feeding Hills, was arrested and charged with two outstanding warrants. Arresting officer was Det. Mark Pfau.

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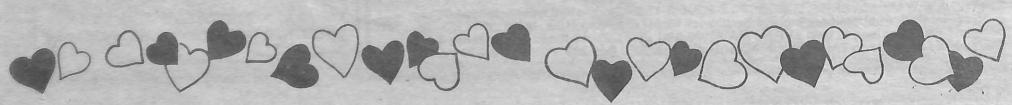
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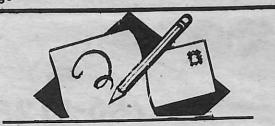
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Letters To The Editor

Agawam Resident Discusses "Robert's Rules Of Order"

To The Editor:

Re: parliamentary procedure, "Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised" (Ed. Robert, Sarah Corbini; Glenview: Scott, Foresman and Company, 1970), has this to say re: previous notice:
"Whatever voting basis is used, it is also possi-

ble to include a requirement of previous notice for

specified types of action." (p. 342.)
Such amorphous language might lend itself to the Chair's own interpretation if bodies of laws, by-laws, and/or charter have not addressed the

situation. Although "Robert's Rules" do not address previous notice for votes of "present," but only for motions, "specified types of action" is a phrase nowhere defined or qualified within this text.

Owen Broadhurst Agawam

Agawam DLT Says Thanks For Filling Out "Blue Cards"

To The Editor:

Remember those blue cards?

Thank you to everyone who took the time to fill out the blue cards that were passed out at "Teachers' First Day" and at each school's "Back to School Night." The results have been tallied and are being discussed at the next District Learning Team (DLT) meeting.

Thank you very much to Kathy Cassanelli for her excellent article on what the DLT is all about.

Also, a big thank you to Linda Galarneau for reviewing our team's progress at the last School

Committee meeting. Our next DLT meeting is Wednesday, February 11, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. in the Junior High School cafeteria. Please come and share your ideas with US.

The Agawam District Learning Team

Ir. Women Apologize For Omitting Contributors' Names

Please accept our apology to the Robinson Park ADELPHI Society, whom we forgot to mention in our previous thank-you letter regarding our Holiday Basket Program.

Unfortunately, we failed to mention their name as one of our benefactors. We wish to express our gratitude to Stephen and Donna DePalma of Regal Homes for all of their assistance, also.

We also wish to apologize if there are any other groups, clubs, organizations, or people we may have failed to mention previously. The help and support we have received this past year during our Holiday Basket Collection was so overwhelming that we are hardly able to express our apprecia-

Thank you again everyone for all of your support.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club

Certain Councilors Should **Abstain From BP Issues**

To The Editor:

Berkshire Power and some of our elected officials seem to be gloating over their backhanded victory in our town.

The power plant will be built, not because of fair play, but because of the millions of dollars spent buying off people and controlling some of our elected officials, especially Nancy Thompson.

Thompson will be called upon to vote on a tax

treaty for her good friends. I question how she can possibly make an unbiased decision when she has shown more concern for Berkshire Power

than her oath of office or the people of our town.

We shouldn't forget, it was Thompson, along
with Bitzas and Simpson, that have constantly
supported Berkshire Power against the wishes of the majority of the council.

They also supported Berkshire Power's in-lieu-of-tax agreement even after it became known that Berkshire Power should pay us at least three times as much in taxes.

Unless Thompson embraces her oath of office and the people of our town the way she does those who run Berkshire Power, then SHE and the others mentioned should abstain from voting on anything else dealing with Berkshire Power.

Thank you, **Ernestine Book** Agawam

Keenan Announces **Centennial Celebration** Of State's Forests

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan is pleased to announce that repairs will be made to the Agawam-West Springfield, Route 147 bridge over the Westfield River during the 1998 construction

"I am happy to see MassHighway addressing the concerns of the Agawam residents," Keenan said. "Proper maintenance of this bridge is vital to the public's safety.

Keenan concluded that construction of the Route 147 bridge will not conflict with the annual Eastern States Exposition.

Agawam School Comm. To Meet On Tuesday, Feb. 10th

The Agawam School Committee will hold a meeting on Tuesday, February 10th, in the Agawam Middle School Auditorium, 68 Main Street, at 7:30 p.m.

Old Business to be discussed: SCR-98-13 - Adoption of Math Textbooks.

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The Agawam Advertiser News

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Keenan Says Repairs Will Commence On Route 147 Bridge

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan joined Governor Paul Cellucci last week in announcing the launching of an extravaganza to commemorate the centennial of the Commonwealth's forests and parks at the State House. The festivities will be year-long, beginning with the Winter Centennial.

"Massachusetts' state parks and forests are some of the most beautiful in the country," stated Keenan. "The Centennial Celebration offers an ideal opportunity to take advantage of Massachusetts' open space and recreational opportunities, and I look forward to participating in

the celebration.' Keenan added that there are a number of state forests and parks in our own backyard. Robinson State Park, located in Agawam, Granville State Forest, Tolland State Forest, and Chester-Blandford State Forest will all be honored and recognized during the Centennial Celebration.

recognized during the Centennial Celebration.

The Winter Centennial will provide snowmobiling, ice-skating, icefishing, snow follies, and an ice harvesting demonstration, as well as an "Access to Snow" program to demonstrate that people of all abilities can enjoy outdoor recreation. More events for the Spring, Summer, and Autumn Centennials are expected, with the high point being Centennial Weekend, June 20th and 21st, 1998

Massachusetts' system of forests and parks, the ninth largest in the United States, includes more than 285,000 acres, or one-seventh of all Massachusetts acreage. Our ninth place ranking is considerable considering that Massachusetts is the seventh smallest state in the Union.

Keenan encourages everyone to experience and celebrate the natural, cultural, and historic resources of Massachusetts' state forest and park system. For more information, call State Representative Dan Keenan's office at (413)

All the local news with us, every week!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sponsored By COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

Friday, February 6th "First Friday" series presents a slide show presentation by Henry Lafleur on the "Appalachian Trail" (a hiking journey) At the Agawam Public Library, Cooper Street 7:30 p.m. (Admission is free)

Saturday, February 7th Dance sponsored by AHS Wrestling Booster Club At Polish American Club, 139 Southwick Street 7:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Tickets: \$7

> Monday, February 9th Catholic Women's Club of Agawam At Parish Center, St. John's Church 7:30 p.m.

Monday, February 9th Agawam Middle School PTO meeting At the Middle School cafeteria 7:30 p.m.

> Tuesday, February 10th Presentation on AIDS At Agawam Senior Center 1:00 p.m.



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School Committee Okays Creation Of New Administrative Position

by Kathy Cassanelli, News Editor

At last week's meeting, the School Committee approved the creation of a new administrative position in a 5-2 vote.

School Superintendent Frank Ameruoso recommended creating an assistant superintendent for Educational Services to take on administrative tasks resulting from Education Reform that do not fall within the job description of any existing administrative positions.

Ameruoso said he will appoint a committee to consider any applications received after the job has been posted for 10 days within the School Department. The superintendent will then recommend a candidate to the School Committee, which has the final authority in hiring assistant superintendents. However, the committee cannot appoint a candidate without the recommendation of the superintendent.

Committee members favoring the new position said the schools will benefit from having one person responsible for curriculum and professional development, as well as bilingual education and

guidance services. Opponents of the plan worried that the new responsibilities attached to the position could interfere with the progress being made on curriculum revision, particularly in the future. Also, opponents argued that incurring additional costs in salary for the position and added clerical costs was ill-advised.

Committee member Susan Pettazzoni said, "Our system has cried out for this for a long time. We need more accountability. Pupil personnel services, curriculum, and professional develop-ment all go hand in hand."

LEGAL NOTICE

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TOWN OF AGAWAM
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, February 12, 1998 at 7:00 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam

Supporting the new position, Committee member Linda Galarneau said Ameruoso's recommendation resulted from the School Committee's directive that he study the makeup of the central office to determine if restructuring was needed (when he took over as superintendent a year-and-

"Looking to the future and to the work that's already been done, we've created the position to see that things get done," Mrs. Galarneau said. "We've been hammering at this (curriculum revision) for eight years."

sion) for eight years."

School Committeewoman Rosemary Sandlin cautioned against additional administrative costs

at a time when the School Department is looking to add two positions in pupil personnel services at a cost of \$60,000. Mrs. Sandlin said additional funding will also be needed to add personnel when the five school additions open in September.

Committee member Teresa Kozloski said the new administrative post would ensure an ongoing study of the curriculum and the implementation or change as needed.

"Bilingual education, pupil personnel, and pro-fessional development all have something to do with curriculum. One person should oversee

them," Mrs. Kozloski said.

New Post Will Carry Administrative Authority...

Unlike the current position of director of Curriculum and Instruction, the new post will carry the administrative authority to deal with the issues of curriculum oversight, professional development, and delivery of guidance services, according to School Committee Chairman (Mayor) Christopher C. Johnson.

Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Seidell for property located on Memorial Park

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman Agawam Conservation Commission Published: February 5, 1998

"The areas that have been our weakest points are now becoming our strongest points. With the millions we are spending in those areas, we need someone directly in charge to make sure we're spending the money wisely," Johnson said.

Johnson said the new position will strengthen

the school system and keep it running as it should have been over the past 10 years.

The assistant superintendent for Educational Services will be paid a salary of \$71,335 and will receive a car allowance of \$3,600 per year. The position will encompass the duties of the position of director of Curriculum and Instruction, as well as new responsibilities for directing and supervising professional development; supervising transitional bilingual education and pupil personnel services; and taking on additional educational services not identified in a particular administrative position.

Voting in favor were Johnson, Louis Massoia, Jr., Mrs. Pettazzoni, Mrs. Galarneau, and Mrs. Kozloski. Against were Roberta Doering and Mrs. Sandlin.

AHS English teacher Kathleen Mouneimneh expressed concern that adding what amounted to a full-time job onto the position of curriculum director could result in taking a step backward in the guise of taking a step forward.

"We finally have a person doing an outstanding job (on curriculum)," Mrs. Mouneimneh said. "Curriculum writing is an ongoing process, one that should not be abandoned for five years. It

should be constantly kept up to date."

Mrs. Mouneimnah is a member of the AHS
School Improvement Council.

Remember deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon ... AAN!!!

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Veterans' Corner...

by Ruth C. Bitzas Veterans' Agent

Nothing But Good News!!!

This week, we have a lot of news, and it's all good for Massachusetts veterans and certain dependants.

A memo went out to all RETIREMENT BOARDS from Robert Stalnaker, Executive Director of Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission, regarding the Superior Court Decision on veterans receiving "federal military pensions.

The decision states that, "veterans who otherwise qualify to purchase their military service pursuant to chapter 71 of the acts of 1996, but who were precluded from doing so because they are receiving federal military pensions, must be allowed to purchase such service notwithstanding their receipt of such pension ... thus retirement boards should not deny otherwise eligible veterans the right to purchase military service pursuant to chapter 71 even if they are receiving federal military pensions."

Members who were previously denied will be re-contacted as to their eligibility. The above applies to wartime veterans vested in State or County retirement systems as well as certain others. Copies of chapter 71 are available in our office.

You were advised in an earlier column of legis-ation regarding an ANNUAL annuity of \$1,500 to certain veterans or families of veterans. I am pleased to announce that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and its Dept. of Veterans' Services, effective July 1, 1998, will provide recognition to our distinguished veterans and to the parents of distinguished veterans who gave their lives in service to their country.

Categories of recipients are 100 percent service-connected disabled veterans and Gold Star mothers or Gold Star parents.

I will be attending the mid-winter Veterans' Service Agents' conference this week, and upon my return will have instructions for completion of the

APPLICATION FOR ANNUITY. Information needed will be published in this column. The State Veterans' Agent Association, along with the 33 veterans' organizations across the state, submitted this legislation as part of our legislative package last year, which was heartily supported by State Senator Linda J. Melconian

and State Rep. Dan Keenan. It's great to know we can count on them for their support of our veterans. If you have any questions on the aforementioned information, please call our office after February 9th. It is certainly a pleasure for me as your Veterans' Agent to bring such good news to you.

Once again, we're located in the Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA, 786-0400, ext. 236/237.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM **PUBLIC HEARING**

The Agawam Town Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 17, 1998 at 7:30 P.M. at the Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA on a Class II Dealer License for Route 147 Auto, Inc., 704A Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

Ursula Retzler Clerk of the Council

Published: February 5, 1998

Berkshire Power Opponent Now Worried The Plant Will Cause Property Values To Increase

by Kathy Cassanelli **News Editor**

At last week's ceremonial groundbreaking on the site that will be home to a \$185 million gasfired power plant, a staunch opponent of the Berkshire Power project added a new wrinkle to the fabric of the opposition's concern about the

effect the plant will have on its closest neighbors. During the three-year battle over siting the electric generating plant in the industrial park on Moylan Lane, plant opponents claimed the plant would have an adverse effect on their property values. At many public hearings, Berkshire Power refuted the claim of an adverse effect on property values and suggested that the project would actually enhance property values, but opponents rejected the company's claims.

Now, at least one member of the opposition, the Concerned Citizens and Business of Agawam (CCBA), may be seeing eye-to-eye with the company — but not for the same reasons.

Michael DelNegro, who lives on Losito Lane within walking distance of the power plant). wants to know what will happen to the value of his property, and thus the amount of real estate tax he il be assessed, in light of the inflated purchase price Berkshire Power paid to former CCBA member Susan Fay for her home on Shoemaker

According to Town Assessor Chester Nicora, the answer to DelNegro's question is no effect whatsoever.

Although neither Berkshire Power nor Ms. Fay would do more than confirm that Ms. Fay had withdrawn her opposition to the plant after the company satisfied her concerns about living next door to a power plant, the company purchased her home for \$190,000. Its assessed value was

While the selling price of homes in the surrounding neighborhoods does have an effect on property values, the State Department of Revenue requires assessors to eliminate the extremes on both the high and the low side in determining pro-

perty values. Nicora said he is required to investigate any sale that is 10 percent over or under the assessed value of a particular property to determine the reason behind the discrepancy. If the higher selling price is due to an enhancement of the market value, like improvements to the property, the assessment of the property will increase. But, Nicora added, if the higher selling price reflects a

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TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, February 12, 1998 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of the Massachusetts Highway Department for property located along the proposed Route 57 Relocation Corridor Phase II.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: February 5, 1998

You turn our pages for all the hometown news...



particular buyer's willingness to pay more than the property is worth, the assessment remains the same and there is no effect on neighboring property values.

Conversely, property that is bought at foreclosure auction or sold to a family member for \$1 is not valued at the selling price, but at the fair market value. Similarly, home improvements are assessed at their market value. For instance, a doit-yourself deck may add \$2,000 to the value of a home even if the homeowner only spent \$500 to build it.

Berkshire Power officials don't deny their project could lead to higher property tax assessments for their neighbors due to an increase in property values brought on by the power

"Actually, that's probably true. That's what's happened with other power plant sites," according to Power Development Co. President Michael Armitage.

New Jobs Will Bring New Homeowners Armitage said the new jobs created by the company will bring about 25 new homeowners to town and they'll be looking for property as close to the plant as possible, which may stimulate an increase in property values.

"As we've said all along, we're a positive impact on the community, not a negative," Armitage

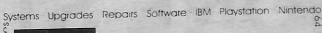
Nicora is adopting a "wait and see" attitude on where property values will be going in the neighborhoods close to Berkshire Power. While he uncovered no evidence of a decrease in property values directly connected to power plants in three eastern Massachusetts towns, Nicora said panic on the part of homeowners in the area could set off a trend toward a decrease in property values (if they sell their homes below the market rate in order to make a quick sale).

Life a self-fulfilling prophecy, quick sales below market value based on the fear of property values decreasing could actually fuel the fire and set the stage for a downward trend in valuation, he noted.

The interaction of buyers and sellers is going to determine the values," Nicora said.

DelNegro believes that power developers purchase property close to power plant sites at inflated prices and then claim that property values

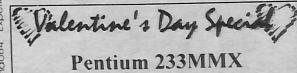
ADVERTISER NEWS





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Thomas Pyne Fund & Whiting St. Fund Seek **New Commissioner**

Please be advised the Town of Agawam is seeking an Agawam voter to fill a current vacancy on the Board of Commissioners to Administer the Thomas Pyne Fund and Whiting Street Fund.

The funds were established to benefit the "worthy poor" in the Town of Agawam. The Board of Commissioners shall, so far as consistent with the terms of the wills, manage, and control the same, consider applications for assistance and distribute the income in accordance with the

terms of the respective wills.

The Board of Commissioners shall keep a record of its activities, and at the close of each calendar year shall make a report to the Mayor and to the Council, showing the total amount of the funds, and their investments, receipts and disbursements on account of the same, setting forth in detail the sources of the receipts and the purposes of the expenditures.

Should any registered voter be interested in the above position, please contact the Mayor's Office in writing.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 12, 1998 at 7:30 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing is to hear the petition of Silver Street Realty Trust for work to be performed on Silver Realty Trust for work to be performed on Silver Street, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman **Agawam Conservation Commission**

Published: February 5, 1998

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

A Design Public Hearing will be held by the Massachusetts Highway Department (MassHighway) to discuss the proposed reconstruction of Route 187, North Westfield/South Westfield

Street, in the Town of Agawam.

WHERE: Agawam Junior High School, 1305 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

WHEN: Thursday, February 12, 1998 at 7:00 P.M.

PURPOSE: To provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed roadway reconstruction project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possi-

PROPOSAL: The proposed project will consist of reconstructing Route 187, North Westfield Street, from the Westfield City line to the Southwick/Springfield Street intersection, approximately 4.9 billometers (2.0 miles). Also include Southwick/Springfield Street intersection, approximately 4.8 kilometers (3.0 miles). Also included is a section of Route 187, along South Westfield Street and Pine Street, for approximately .5 kilometers (.3 miles). The work will include shoulder widening, full-depth roadway reconstruction, the installation of new traffic signals at the South Westfield/North Street Intersection, installation of sidewalks, and improved roadway drainage where necessary. A secure ed roadway drainage where necessary. A secure Right of Way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Town of Agawam is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. MassHighway's policy concerning land acquisitions will be

discussed at this hearing.

Written views received by MassHighway subsequent to the date of this notice and up to five (5) days prior to the date of the hearing shall be displayed for public inspection and copying at the time and date listed above.

Written statements and other exhibits in place of, or in addition to, oral statements at the public hearing regarding the proposed undertaking are to be submitted to Thomas F. Broderick, P.E., Chief Engineer, Massachusetts Highway Department, Ten Park Plaza, Boston, Massachusetts 02116. Such submissions will also be accepted at the hearing. The final date for receipt of these statements and exhibits will be ten (10) days after the public hearing.

Plans will be on display for one half hour before the hearing, with an Engineer in attendance to

answer questions regarding this project.

Kevin J. Sullivan, COMMISSIONER

Thomas F. Broderick, P.E., CHIEF ENGINEER

Boston, Massachusetts

Published: February 5, 1998

Fire Wise... by Fire Chief David Pisano

Road Rules For Emergency Vehicles

The Agawam Fire Department reminds motorists that the law requires they pull to the right-hand curb to allow emergency vehicles to pass. Failure to do so can cause serious accidents or delays in arriving at the scene of an

When you hear sirens or see red lights, pull to the right side of the road and stop. If you cannot move right, move in any direction that will allow the emergency vehicle through. Look first before moving. If there is no place to move, sit tight.

Following an emergency vehicle may seem exciting, but, in reality, is dangerous both to the emergency personnel and to yourself.

Emergency vehicles often have to stop sudden-

ly, and someone following too close could become involved in an accident and emergency personnel could be injured when attempting to get out of their vehicles to respond to the call. Please heed the warning posted on the back of most fire engines which states that vehicles behind them should be at least 50 feet behind

If you are a pedestrian and hear sirens, stay on the curb. Do not step into the street, even after the emergency vehicle has passed. There may be more following at a distance.

Keep children close to you. They may try to dart out to see the fire truck or ambulance.

For further information, contact the Agawam

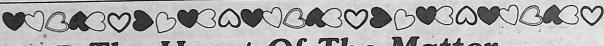
Fire Department at 786-2662.

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Plus Deposit



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\$8.99 Plus Deposit

Heineken (12 Pk. Cans) \$9.99 Plus Deposit



Cider Jack (6 Pk.) \$4.99



Bud (16 Oz. NR) \$15.99 Plus Deposit

(16 Oz. NR) \$15.99

Plus Deposit

Bud Light



Corona (12 Pk. Bottles) \$8.99

WINES

M&R Vermouths Sweet Or Dry (750 ml.)

\$4.99

Seven Peaks Central Coast Chardonnay (750 ml.)

\$9.99

Franzia (5 Ltr. Bag Box) Most Flavors - \$7.49 White Zinfandel & Burgundy -\$9.49

Cabernet & Chardonnay -\$14.49

> Andre Champagnes (750 ml.)

\$2.99

Corbett Canyon White Zinfandel (750 ml.)

3 For \$7.99

Mountain View Pinot Noir (750 ml.)

\$6.99

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- ADVERTISER NEWS -

Agawam Obituaries —



Elizabeth M. Guarnieri

Elizabeth M. "Betty" (Cavalier) Guarnieri, 87, of 86 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, a 10-year employee of Buxton's Leather until she retired in

employee of Buxton's Leatner until she retired in 1984 and who previously worked at the Springfield Armory, died Saturday, January 31st, at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Born in New Haven, Connecticut, she lived in Springfield and later in Feeding Hills from 1979-1996, when she moved to San Diego, California She returned to Feeding Hills in December of

1979-1996, when she moved to San Diego, California. She returned to Feeding Hills in December of 1997. She was an avid Bingo player.

The former wife of the late Angelo "Ricky" Guarnieri, she is survived by her son, Raymond A. Guarnieri of Feeding Hills; a daughter, Carolyn Yacovone Hatch of Feeding Hills; a brother, Louis Cavalier, and a sister, Mae Parente, both of New Haven. She is also survived by four grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. She was the grandmother of the late Dino Yacovone, who died in 1995.

The funeral was held on Wednesday morning, February 4th, from the Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam, followed by a funeral

Funeral Home of Agawam, followed by a funeral Mass in Sacred Heart Church and burial in Springfield Street Cemetery, both in Feeding Hills. There were no visiting hours.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Agawam Council on Aging, 57 Wright Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Grace G. Stuart

Grace G. (George) Stuart, 90, formerly of Brookfield Road, Brimfield, a former Brimfield town official, died in an Agawam nursing home.

She was a secretary for Northeast Utilities Corp. in Springfield for 42 years, and retired in 1972. She worked formerly in the Old Sturbridge Village gift shop for 10 years.

Born in Brimfield, she lived in the town from 1954. She lived previously in Ludlow and Springfield.

She attended the Brimfield Congregational Church, and was a deaconess and Women's Fellowship member. She was a Daughter of the Nile, associated with the Melha Shrine Temple in

She served on the Brimfield Housing For the Elderly Board, and was a director and assistant chairwoman. She also served on its site plan and building committee.

Her husband, Robert M. Stuart, died in 1964. She leaves nieces and nephews.

There will be a memorial service on February 22nd at the church, and Beers & Story Funeral

Home is in charge of the arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to the Congregational Church, Brimfield, or any other charity.

Louis E. Pedulla

Louis E. Pedulla, 87, of 327 Meadow Street, Agawam, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was a warehouse superintendent for Brockway-Smith Co. of East Longmeadow (now of Hatfield) for 47 years, and retired in 1975. Born in Springfield, he was a graduate of

Agawam High School.

He belonged to the Unico and Lions Clubs, and was a communicant of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

He leaves his wife of 63 years, Fannie R. (Fazio) Pedulla; a son, Louis E. Jr. of San Diego, California; three daughters, Rosemarie of Agawam, Marianne of Springfield, and Janet Pope of East Longmeadow; a brother, Dominic J. Jr. of Agawam; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home, with the burial in Center Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Mount Carmel Building Fund, 123 William Street, Springfield, MA 01105, or the Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, P.O. Box 600, New Bedford, MA 02742.

Craig O. Waryasz

Craig O. Waryasz, 25, of Provin Mountain Road, Feeding Hills, a former area athlete and ski instructor, died after being injured in a car accident on North Street.

He was a compositor in the composing room at the Union-News of Springfield from 1995. He was previously a ski instructor at the Mount Tom and

Mount Snow, Vermont, Ski Resorts.

Born in Springfield, he was a graduate of Agawam High School, and attended Springfield Technical Community College.

He attended the First Congregational Church in West Springfield.

He played varsity soccer, and captained the var-

West Springfield.
He played varsity soccer, and captained the varsity hockey team at Agawam High School. He also played in area golfing leagues.
He leaves his parents, Richard O. and Jean R. (Young) Waryasz of Feeding Hills; a sister, Lynne A. Humphries of Springfield; two nephews; an uncleican aunt: a cousin; and a friend.

A. Humphries of Springfield; two nepnews; an uncle; an aunt; a cousin; and a friend.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home and the church, both in West Springfield. The burial was in St. Stanislaus's Cemetery in Chicopee.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Crain O. Warvasz Memorial Fund in care of Gail

Craig O. Waryasz Memorial Fund, in care of Gail Nichols, Westfield Bank, 206 Park Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Mary Basili

Mary (Lugi) Basili, 90, of 85 William Street, Springfield, and formerly of Worcester, died in an Agawam nursing home.

> SEE OBITUARIES -Page 9...

CALENDAR

OPTIONS FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

Helpful grief recovery programs for this month offered free of charge to the community by Forastiere Family Funeral Homes.

Widow & Widower Support Groups

Wed., February 11, 1:30-3:30pm Captain Charles Leonard House, Agawam Thurs., February 26, 1:30-3:30pm or 7:00-9:00pm Forastiere-Smith Grief Support Center, East Longmeadow

· Younger Widowed Support Group ·

Thurs., February 12, 7:00-9:00pm Forastiere-Smith Grief Support Center, East Longmeadow

Family & Friends Support Group

Wed., February 11, 7:00-9:00pm Captain Charles Leonard House, Agawam

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OBITUARIES - from Page 8...

She was born in West Boylston, and was a graduate of Sterling High School. She also was a graduate of Becker Junior College in Worcester.

She lived in Worcester for 68 years before moving to Springfield in 1994.

She worshipped at Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Anne Church in Worcester.

Her husband, Gene Basili, died in 1988.

She leaves three sons, Gene of Springfield, Robert of Waldwick, New Jersey, and Richard of Kingston, South Carolina; 12 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and nephews and nieces.

The funeral was held at Mercadante Funeral Home and the church, with the burial in Notre Dame Cemetery, all in Worcester.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Immaculate Conception Church, 475 Main Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Elizabeth V. Coon

Elizabeth V. Coon died at a local nursing home. She was a 25-year time clerk for Smith & Wesson Co. and retired in 1968.

She was a communicant of St. Michael's

Cathedral in Springfield.

She leaves eight cousins, Madeline Fernands, Mary Ford, Beverly Haley, James Caney, all of Springfield; Richard Caney of East Longmeadow; Loring Caney of West Springfield; Charles Caney of Sarosota, Florida; and Vivian Roberts of Sarosota,

The funeral was held at Sampson Chapel of the Acres and in the church, with burial in Calvary

Cemetery.

Evelyn V. Notman

Evelyn V. (Anner) Notman, 97, a long-time Agawam resident, died in a Stafford Springs, Connecticut, nursing home.

She was born in Buffalo, New York, and lived in

Agawam most of her life.

She was a member of the Agawam Congrega-

tional Church and the Agawam Lioness Club.
She belonged to the Agawam and Western
Massachusetts Business Women's Clubs,
Wesson Auxiliary Club, Historical Society of
Agawam, and the Republican Town Committee.

She leaves a son, Robert of Florida; a sister, Mildred Anner of Williamsville, New York; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

She leaves a friend, June Stibolt of Springfield. The burial will be held at the convenience of the family. Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Daniel F. Sheehan

Daniel F. Sheehan, 36, of Tucson, Arizona, and formerly of Agawam, died in Tucson.

Born in Springfield, MA, he lived in Agawam

and California before moving to Arizona 20 years

He leaves his parents, Cornelius J. Jr. and Athena (Bozoglos) Sheehan of Agawam; three sisters, Karen A. Cardwell of Somers, CT, Joanne T. Mason of Agawam, and Melissa A. Sheehan of Astoria, New York; and nieces and nephews.

A private funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home of West Springfield, and the burial was held at Oak Grove Cemetery in Springfield. The calling hours were private.



Departure Friday and return Tuesday.

Validity: Jan 12 - Mar 27, 1998

Call for Details! (413)786-1801

Nancy A. Ryder

Nancy Anne (Partridge) Ryder of Westfield, the wife of retired Agawam Superintendent of Schools Bernard F. Ryder, died suddenly on

January 29th.
In addition to her husband of 42 years, she leaves her five children and their spouses: Gretchen Anne Ryder Sharry and her husband, Thomas M. Sharry, Esq., of Wayland, MA; Christopher John Ryder, M.D., and his wife, Judith Byrne Ryder of Brewer, Maine; Jeffrey Matthew Ryder and his wife, Carol Palmer Ryder, of Manchester, New Hampshire; Priscilla Jane Ryder Dwyer and her husband, Gerald J. Dwyer, of Reading, MA; and Suellen Marie Ryder Albahary and her husband, David J. Albahary, of Hoboken,

She is also survived by her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Matthew J. Partridge of Pawtucket, Rhode Island; two brothers and sister-in-laws, John J., Esq., and Regina Partridge, and Robert J. and Phyllis Partridge, and their families; and nine grandchildren.

The funeral was held at St. Leo the Great Church in Pawtucket, and Costigan-O'Neill Funeral Home & Cremation Services (also of Pawtucket) was in charge of the arrangements.

Expressions of sympathy may be made in her memory to the Sister Mary Caritas Center for Oncology at Mercy Hospital, Springfield, MA.

Stella B. Roberts

Stella B. (Cebula) Roberts, 84, of 18 Severn St., Longmeadow, died in a local nursing home. She was the 60-year owner and operator of the former C.J. Roberts Engineering Co. in Springfield and retired in 1991.

Born in Springfield, she was a 1931 graduate of the High School of Commerce, and moved to

Longmeadow in 1948.

She belonged to the Springfield Country Club, the Eastern Star, and area bridge leagues. Her husband, Carl J. Roberts, died in 1970.

She leaves two sons, Carl F. of Agawam, and Wayne E. of Longmeadow; six grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren, and two friends.

The funeral was at Agawam Funeral Home, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association, 813 Williams Street, Longmeadow, MA 01106.

Lester E. Geoffrion

Lester E. Geoffrion, 70, of Agawam, a 60-year Springfield resident, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was a retired 25-year machine operator for the Longview Fibre Co. of West Springfield. He

retired in 1978.

He was a Navy veteran of World War II and served in the Pacific Theater aboard the USS Washington and the USS Massachusetts. He later served in the Army during the Korean conflict. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign

Wars 1632.

He leaves his wife, the former Jean H. Duffney; a son, Laurence E., and a daughter, Lynn E. Oakes, both of Agawam; three brothers, Fred Mansfield of Ludlow and Louis Geoffrion and Frank Geoffrion, both of Springfield; two sisters, Wanda Coughlin of Springfield and Lois Cerez of Ludlow; and two grandchildren.

A graveside service was held at the Agawam Center Cemetery. Kozikowski Funeral Home of Chicopee was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Shriners Hospital, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

Stanley S. Wolkowicz

Stanely S. Wolkowicz, 70, of 290 Corey Street, Agawam, died at Mercy Hospital in Springfield. He was the 17-year owner of Wolkowicz Truck-

ing Co. and retired in 1993.

Born in West Warren, he lived in Longmeadow before moving to Agawam in 1972.

He was graduated from American International College with a bachelor's degree in business in

He was a World War II Navy veteran, a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church, and a member of Springfield's Elks Lodge 61.

He leaves his wife, the former Genevieve A. Swinarski; two sons, Dr. Michael J. of Charlottesville, Virginia, and Stephen J. of Hawthorne, California; a brother, John, and a sister, Victoria Modzelewski, of Florida; and two grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Funeral Home and the church, with the burial in Center Cemetery

Memorial contributions may be made to any . charity.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 10...

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789-6090

Helen (Bieda) Dominik, 76, of '. Vestfield, died in

an Agawam nursing home.

She worked at Westfield State College, and retired in 1985. She received the college's

Classified Staff Distinguished Service Award. Born in Poland, she came to this country in 1949. She lived in Adams before moving to Westfield in 1959.

She was a communicant of the Holy Trinity Church, and a member of the Polish Women's

Her husband, Julian Dominik, died in 1975. She leaves a son, Henry of Colorado; a daugnter, Barbara Root of Agawam; five brothers;

six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.
The funeral was held at Czelusniak Funeral Home and the church, with the burial in St. Mary's

Memorial contributions may be made to the Ho-Trinity School Fund, Elm Street, Westfield, MA

Bertha A. Moccio

Bertha A. (Goszkowicz) Moccio, 86, of 1211 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, died in a local nurs-

Born in Chicopee, she was a long-time resident of Feeding Hills, and a communicant of the Sacred Heart Church.

She belonged to the parish's Women's Club, the Agawam Polish Club, and the Italian Sporting Club Auxiliary.

Her husband, Benjamin Moccio, died in 1992. She leaves two sons, Vincent ("Jack") of Southwick and Robert R. of Feeding Hills; two

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM NOTICE!!!

You are hereby notified that a public hearing will be held at Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, in the Town of Agawam, Massachusetts, at 7:30 o'clock p.m., on Tuesday, February 17, 1998 upon petition of Bell Atlantic and Western Mass. Electric Company dated December 12, 1997 for permission to install joint pole approximately 65' Westerly of existing pole no. 6 ine ways or parts of ways designated in said petition, along which designated route of line you are an owner of real estate as determined by the last preceding assessment for taxation.

Dated this 21st day of January, 1998. Information regarding this petition may be obtained from Western Mass. Electric Company in

Springfield, Tel. No. 787-9460. PETITION No. DRG. 1354 STREET: Valley Street **Ursula Retzler** Clerk of the Council

Published: February 5, 1998

Best local news - AAN!!!

The Agawam Advertiser News

brothers, Frank of Holyoke and Julian of South Hadley; a sister, Stella Pudlo of Holyoke; seven grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and the church, with the burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church memorial fund at 1103 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

John E. Rys, Jr.

John E. Rys, Jr., 42, of 43 Voltage Avenue, Ludlow, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was a 22-year mail handler at the Postal Service Bulk Mailing Center in Indian Orchard. Born in Springfield, he attended Agawam High

He was a Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, and served aboard the carrier, USS Kitty Hawk, and the USS Samuel Gompers.

He was a long-time resident of Agawam before

moving to Ludlow 10 years ago.

He was a communicant of St. Mary's Church. He coached girls' softball in two leagues, and was president of the St. Mary's Girls Softball Associa-

He also was a third-degree Agawam master

He leaves his wife, the former Diane E. Smith; two daughters, Christina L. Rys and Jennifer M. Rys at home; two sisters, Victoria Cross of New Hampshire and Michele Newell of Easthampton; and nephews and nieces.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home and the church, with the burial in St. Thomas's Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation, 1111 Elm Street, West Springfield, MA 01089

Agawam Democratic **Committee Slates Delegate Caucus**

The Agawam Democratic Committee will hold its caucus to elect delegates to the 1998 Massachusetts Democratic Čonvention.

Registered Democrats wishing to run must be at the Agawam Police Station Community Room,

Saturday, February 7th at 2:00 p.m.
Registration will be closed at 2:15 p.m. Fourteen delegates (seven women and seven men) and four alternates (two women and two men) will be

Surprise your loved ones with a "Birthday Ad" in the Advertiser News...

Fuel Assistance Info & Applications At **Agawam Senior Center**

February 5, 1998

Information and applications are available at the Agawam Senior Center for those individuals qualifying for fuel assistance. Please look at the income guidelines to determine if you may be eligible.

Household size:

1 - Income under \$13,808 (eligible). 2 - Income under \$18,568 (eligible)

Appointments will be made on Wednesday mornings in January and February from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Remember, when you come in for your appointment, you must bring...

1. Proof of your household income, a copy of Social Security, SSI, pensions, and retirement

2. A copy of your latest heating bill (make sure it has your name and address on it).

3. A current I.D., Social Security card, birth certificate, or your current driver's license. GOOD NEWS!!!

The Senior Pharmacy Program will continue through 1998!

Call the Senior Center and make an appointment with Trudy, our SHINE representative, for more information about your eligibility. Trudy is in the Agawam Senior Center on the first and third Tuesday of every month from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon to answer your questions.

Pharmacy Program For Senior Citizens Continues In 1998

Applications for the Senior Pharmacy Program are available at the Agawam Senior Center.

Those who need help or have questions concerning an application, may call the Senior Center to set up an appointment with Trudy, our SHINE

Call the Senior Center, 786-0400, ext. 242 or 243.

Remember, our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon. However, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays.

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176 Garden Street Feeding Hills 786-0924



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Last Day For Open Pantry's Parent-Child Program





ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 30TH, the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry held its final Parent-Child Program. IN LEFT PHOTO: Program Director Pat Lyman with Nola Foley and Lillian Hillman, the founders of the Program. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Volunteer Diane Wingate, Sebastian Crews, Giovanni Mallen, Tyreece Crews, and Classroom Coordinator Sheila Longley. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Advice From The Mortgage Pros ...

Our Mortgages Offer Low Rates, Fixed Terms and No Voice Mail!



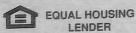
Bob Michel, Senior Vice President of Retail and Mortgage Lending, 27 years of banking experience.

We have it all, except the voice mail that is! Our Variable Rate Mortgages with Fixed Terms can save you money and offer you the stability that you need once you get into your new home. Hampden Savings Bank also keeps all the mortgages we write. So we can be more flexible than the big banks because all of our lending decisions are made here, not at some far-away corporate office. If you have questions down the road, we'll still be here to help you, just like we have been doing for the past 145 years.

• No Points • Local Decisions • Low Rates & Stability • No Rate Lock Fees



19 Harrison Avenue, Springfield 784-0541 & Allen St., Springfield 782-5291 & Longmeadow 567-3321 & West Springfield 781-3360





CASSIDY MARIE MILLIKEN

Scott & Carrie Milliken Announce Birth Of Daughter

Scott & Carrie Milliken are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Cassidy Marie, who was born at Wesson Women's on October 17, 1997 at 12:48 p.m. She weighed eight pounds, three ounces, and was 21 inches long.

The proud grandparents are Ron & Sue Viens of School Street in Agawam, Gerri Milliken of Channell Drive in Agawam, and Fran Milliken of Suf-

The great-grandparents are Fran & Marie Viens of Witheridge Street in Feeding Hills, Lou & Gloria Lodigiani of West Springfield, and Herb & Evelyn Booker of Port Charlotte, Florida.

Cassidy also has a great-great-grandmother, Helen Booker of Longmeadow.

Boy Scout Troup 78 Will Be Sponsoring Valentine's Day Dance

Boy Scout Troop 78 will be sponsoring a Valentine's Day Dance for adults on Saturday, February 14th: at the Springfield Turnverein, 176 Garden Street, Agawam. It will be held from 8:00 p.m. until

12:00 midnight.

Music will be provided by DJ Billy Gino. Tickets are \$5 per person and may be purchased at the door or by contacting Louise Pilegi at



TAYLOR DAVID ANDRY

The Andrys Announce Birth Of Son, Taylor

David and Zamira Andry are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Taylor David, on November 12, 1997 at South Miami Hospital, weighing seven pounds, nine ounces. He was 19 inches long.

Proud grandparents are Robert and Connie Andry (previously of Agawam) and Carlos and Nora Pereira of Miami, Florida.

Valentine Eve Dinner Scheduled At The Springfield Turnverein

The Springfield Turnverein, located at 176 Garden Street in Feeding Hills, will hold a Valentine Eve Dinner. The menu will include goulash and noodles, salad, homebaked desserts, and coffee. All this for only \$6 per person. Serving time will be from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Please make your reservations with Christa Strehl, 786-0143, or at the Club, 786-0924. This dinner is being sponsored by the Ladies' Glee Club and the Men's Singing Section of the Club, with proceeds going to the Club. proceeds going to the Club.

Following dinner, there will a showing of films taken before our new building was erected and many of the functions held at the Club. If you are a former member of the Club and would like to see yourself on film, please join us for a fun evening.

Veronica L. LaValley Elists In U.S. Navy **Under Delayed Entry**

Veronica Lynn LaValley, daughter of Jules & Phyllis LaValley of Agawam, recently enlisted in the United States Navy.

A senior at Agawam High School, LaValley enlisted under the Navy's Delayed Entry Program. This program allows young women and men to enlist up to a year before their actual entry onto

LaValley leaves in January for basic training (boot camp) at Great Lakes Naval Training Center in North Chicago, Illinois. Following boot camp, she begins 11 weeks of technical training as a Navy Machinist Mate.

Machinist Mates operate engines, compressors, refrigerators, air-conditioning, gasoperated equipment, and other types of machinery afloat and ashore. They are responsible for the abidic steam propulsion and auxiliance. ble for the ship's steam propulsion and auxiliary equipment and the outside (deck) machinery. In some instances, Navy Machinist Mates manufacture, store, and transfer industrial gases.

For more information about Navy programs and opportunities, contact your local Navy recruiter, Petty Officer Gary Nixon, at (413) 785-0167, or cruise the Internet at www.tiac.net/users/navyne.

Agawam Women's Club To Hold Attic Treasures & Craft Fair

An Attic Treasures And Craft Fair will be presented by the Agawam Women's Club on March 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Agawam Baptist Church on Main Street.

Vendors interested in renting a space, please call 786-3091 for further information.

A snack bar will be available for lunch as well

as sweets, coffee, tea, and soda.

Come and enjoy part of your day with us, and help support our community projects such as the High School Scholarship Fund, Heritage Hall Nursing Home, Holyoke Soldiers' Home, and needy families in the area.

Meetings are held every fourth Monday, September through March, 7:30 p.m. in the Cap-tain Charles Leonard House, Main Street.

Guests are always welcome.

You turn our pages for the local news...

Check our classified pages every week for FAST FAST results!



Best local news...

Vas anyone hurt?

The first thing most insurance carriers want to know after you've had an accident isif you have a police report. Things are different at Canary Blomstrom Insurance.

You see, our primary concern is you, our customer. We believe relationships are more important than policy numbers. That's why when you call us with an accident claim, our first question is about your welfare. It's not just a line-we'll cover insurance matters soon enough.

Service to our customers has always been our top priority, and it's what sets us apart from most insurance agents. As one of our clients put it "I didn't realize the service I wasn't getting until I switched to Canary Blomstrom."

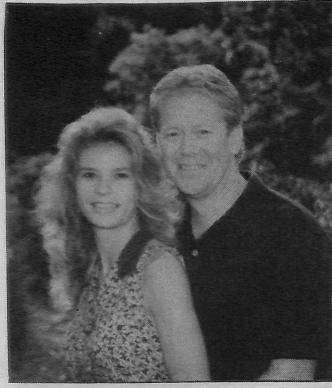
We offer a complete line of personal and business insurance programs custom designed to fit your needs. Please call for a free cost comparison based on your existing policy,

CANARY BLOMSTROM INSURANCE AGENCY, INC

868 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills



Call us. 789 3995



CATHLEEN HOPPING AND ERIC TIMMS

Cathleen Hopping Is Engaged To Wed Eric Timms

Merritt and Donna Hopping of 182 Parkedge Drive, Feeding Hills, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Cathleen Hopping, to Eric Timms, son of John and Judy Timms of Feeding Hills.

The bride-to-be graduated from Agawam High School in 1987 and is a graduate of Bay Path College. She currently is employed by Hamilton Standard, a division of United Technologies.

The future groom is also a graduate of Agawam High School and a graduate of Western New England College. He is currently self-employed. A June 1998 wedding is planned.

"Valentine Party" At Senior Center

Join us for the Agawam Council on Aging's annual "Valentine Party" to be held at the Agawam Senior Center on Friday, February 13th.

The menu will include cheese-stuffed chicken, twice-baked potatoes, baby Belgian carrots, and sweetheart cake

sweetheart cake.

Entertainment will be provided by "sweetheart"
Linda King and the Golden Blue Ribbon Singers.

Linda King and the Golden Blue Ribbon Singers.
All classes at the Senior Center have been

cancelled for this day.

Reservations are needed for the "Valentine Party"; call 786-0400, ext. 242.

Check our classified ads each and every week ... AAN!!!





The Captain Charles Leonard House - Built 1805
Agawam, Massachusetts

The Captain Leonard House Is Seeking New "Friends"

February is "Friends of the Captain Charles Leonard House Month." The Captain Charles Leonard House is located in Agawam Center on Main Street next to the Westfield Savings Bank.

The Leonard House was built in 1805 and was admitted to the National Register of Historic Places on March 10, 1975. The building serves as a community meeting facility for many clubs and organizations, as well as for private functions.

The property is owned by the Captain Charles Leonard House Incorporated and managed by its Board of Trustees, all of whom are local people who volunteer thier time and services.

The Captain Charles Leonard House is available for luncheons, teas, dinners, bridge parties, meetings, weddings, showers, and other social gatherings.

The Board invites all residents, social groups, and businesses to become a "Friend of the Captain Charles Leonard House" by giving a gift in any amount, large of small. Donors' names will be recorded in the "Friends" record book, kept in the front hallway of the Leonard House for all to see.

Tax-deductible donations may be sent to the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, February 9th: Ziti & meatballs, tossed salad, Italian bread, fresh orange.

Tuesday, February 10th: Baked chicken, rice Pilaf, spinach, applesauce.

Wednesday, February 11th: New dish—smoky country-style ribs, potato puffs, cole slaw, whole wheat bread, ice cream.

Thursday, February 12th: BBQ pork, baked beans, cole slaw, brown bread, pineapple.

Friday, February 13th: New dish for Valentine's Day celebration—cheese-stuffed chicken, twice-baked potatoes, baby Belgium carrots, roll, sweetheart cake.

AIDS Presentation To Take Place At Agawam Senior Center

A presentation on AIDS will take place at the Agawam Senior Center on February 10th at 1:00

Many of us believe that only young people need to think about HIV/AIDS. However, this is a myth; that HIV/AIDS is just a young people's disease.

Did you know nationally, approximately 11 percent of all persons, when diagnosed with AIDS, are over 50. In Massachusetts, approximately seven percent of those, when diagnosed with AIDS, are aged 50 and older.

HIV/AIDS affects older people in many ways: as parents, grandparents, partners, caregivers, and friends of people affected by the disease. In fact, it is estimated that by the year 2000, there will be 100,000 orphans in the United States because of the disease.

Come to the Agawam Senior Center on February 10th and meet Andrea Rae of the HIV/AIDS Senior Awareness Project, and learn how HIV/AIDS affects all of us.

Tax Assistance Is Now Available On Wednesday Mornings At Senior Center

The Agawam Senior Center will offer tax assistance on Wednesday mornings from February 4th through April 15th from 9:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

To schedule an appointment, call the Center at 786-0400, ext. 242 or 243.

To make an appointment for information on fuel assistance, call the Agawam Senior Center. Appointments are available on Wednesdays through the end of February from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Call 786-0400, ext. 242 or 243.



Agawam Federal Credit Union

Great Rates On Car Loans

For Limited Time

New

7.00% APR * 7.25% APR * 7.50% APR *

36 Months 48 Months 60 Months

Annual Percentage Rate 10% Down

Used Car

7.75% APR * 8.00% APR *

36 Months 48 Months

* Annual Percentage Rate NADA Loan Value

4 Washington Avenue Extension, Agawam

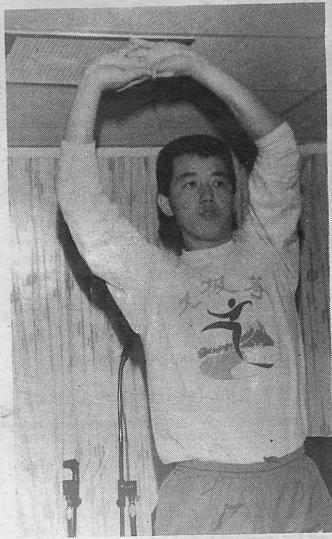


786-2100

Mon. - Tues. - Wed. 9-4 Thurs. - Fri. 9-5

Open To All Who Live Or Work In Agawam

Enjoying "Tai Chi" At The Senior Center...



Spfld. Italian Women's Club To Meet February 17th

The February 17th meeting of the Springfield Italian Women's Club will be held at the Monte Carlo Restaurant, 1020 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield. Dinner will start promptly at 6:30 p.m.

The meetings are open to all women of Italian heritage (either born Italian or married to an Italian).

For more information, call (413) 782-0757 or (413) 781-1183.

Catholic Women's Club Slates Giant Tag & Rummage Sale

The Catholic Women's Club of Agawam will sponsor a giant tag sale/rummage sale in the parking lot of St. John the Evangelist Church on Saturday, April 25th from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Any interested vendor can obtain complete information by calling Betsy Ciempa, 786-5160. Spaces will be assigned on a first-come basis.



EACH FRIDAY MORNING, Master Teachers Baiqing (left photo) and Mei Han Li demonstrate "Tranquility Through Tai Chi" at the Agawam Senior Center. Tai Chi, an ancient Chinese discipline that is practiced by millions of people of all ages, offers a holistic approach to physical and mental health. The slow, flowing movements of Tai Chi can be easily adapted to accommodate the abilities of each individual, and are especially suitable for senior citizens. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Marc A. Callahan Memorial Fund To Hold Its Annual Fundraiser On February 14th

The Marc A. Callahan Memorial Fund will host its annual fundraising event, a formal, black-tie gala event to be held February 14th at the Ramada Sovereign Inn Hotel & Conference Center Grand Ballroom, 1080 Riverdale Rd., West Springfield.

The hotel offers a special rate of \$69 per double room, including breakfast for two. Reservations should be made immediately.

Once again, the sponsor will be X-Cellent Discount Wines and Liquors of Springfield and West Springfield. There will be a special art exhibit by Renee Rutana of the Indian Orchard Mills and Gallery and Studios. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Marc A. Callahan Memorial

The evening will begin with an hors d'oeuvres and cocktail hour beginning at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will follow at 7:00 p.m. During the cocktail hour, singer-songwriter Frankie Manzie will perform. The Fred Asatire Dance Studio of Springfield will honor us with special appearance by Daryll Carven and Gunnar Sverrissom. Also appearing, from the Arthur Murray Dancers, will be the Three

Amigos: Harry Kozikowski, Corky Laduke, and Joe Pepin. After dinner, dance the night away with Flash Karaoke and D.J. Jason Vleta.

Dr. Anne Morris of the Infectious Disease Dept. at Baystate Medical Center will be honored for her long-standing commitment of caring for people with HIV/AIDS. Also being honored is Ms. Michelle Leonard, from Western Mass. AIDS Foundation, for her countless hours of volunteerism and dedication to the needs of people and families affected by HIV/AIDS.

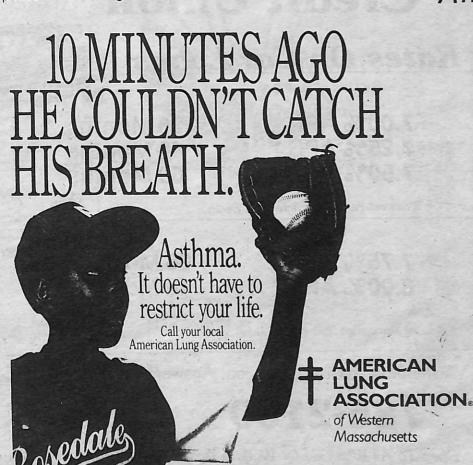
Raffles and door prizes will abound! For the third consecutive year, Mr. Tux of Boston Road and West Springfield will provide tuxedos to anyone attending the event for a mere \$35.

and West Springfield with productions are \$35.

Donations are \$35 per person. All proceeds benefit the VNA of Pioneer Valley, Inc. HIV/AIDS. Checks and contributions should be made payable to the "Marc A. Callahan Memorial Fund."

For more information, call Raymond Miller at 732-4958 or 525-4238 or Faith Freeman at 594-5355.

All the local news with us ...





Church News



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH'S Executive Campaign Committee: in top photo-Reverend Curt Fuller and Dean Brust; in photo below - Betty Fogg and Steve Tapply (Capital Fund Drive chairperson). Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.





ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST, Agawam Congregational Church held an all-church banquet for "Growing in God's Spirit," the theme of its 1998 Capital Fund Drive. IN TOP PHOTO: Maryellen Sullivan, Ed Gillis, Kitty Gillis, and Pat Gates. IN PHOTO BELOW: Tracy Nawskon, Ed Nawskon, Susan Tapply, Darlene Ferraro, and Peter Hallock. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Agawam Congregational Church Is Now Conducting Its 1998 Capital Fund Drive

"Growing in God's Spirit" is the theme of the Agawam Congregational Church 1998 Capital Fund Drive. The congregation is hoping to reach a \$275,000 goal with a challenge goal of \$350,000. The Reverends Ray and Pat Harwick of Harwick Associates are helping to oversee the party.

Associates are helping to oversee this drive.

This active congregation of nearly 400 members hopes to expand its outreach programs and beautify its wonderful facilities. A mission component will aid UCC programs in Massachusetts as well as with its partner churches in Chile.

The Agawam Congregational Church will reach its 180th birthday in 1999. Making the church fully accessible to all is a strong part of this drive. The three-year pledges by members and friends will enable the church to expand its ministries to children and adults in Christ's name.

Steven Tapply took on this task as the Capital Fund Drive chairperson and has the help of an Executive Campaign Committee of Reverend Curt Fuller, Helen Robbins, Charles Kistner, Dean Brust, Betty Fogg, Eleanor King, Mary Jane Stuart, and Treasurer Sue Nardi.

Check our classifieds every week...





Church News - continued...



Reflections...

submitted by Rev. Peter Monahan Pastor of the Church of the Apostles, Suffield, CT (860) 668-4444 or (413) 786-8735

God Had Done The Hard Part For Us

Driving up Route 91 one evening this week, I observed an airplane heading towards Bradley Airport. When I first noticed the plane's lights flashing in the dark sky, the plane was traveling in a southeasterly direction.

Suddenly, the plane changed course. The pilot turned the plane almost completely around, and headed west for the final descent. I was amazed that the pilot seemed to know precisely when to turn the plane, especially because it was so dark that the pilot probably couldn't see any landmarks on the ground. Obviously, the air traffic controllers did a great job directing the pilot.

Sometimes our lives are like that plane in the night sky. Sometimes it's dark and we're not sure

where to go or when to turn. It happens to everybody, in every station in life. The challenge for us is to identify, and then listen to, the air traf-

fic controllers.

One of Israel's early leaders was a man named Gideon. He was chosen by God to lead the people, even though he did not have great credentials. Because of this, Gideon wondered if the angelic messenger who told him he was to lead the people was the seally compared to the first place. Gideon ple really came from God in the first place. Gideon exercised great wisdom, by asking the angel to clearly identify himself as one of God's angels. He

asked the angel for an appropriate sign. When the angel showed Gideon an appropriate sign, Gideon knew he could trust the angel and what the angel was telling him.

Gideon lived in an era before the Scriptures were written. The sign which the angel had shown to Gideon was similar to a sign another angel had shown to Abraham several hundred years before. It was a sign which made sense to those people at that time, and which was identified as coming

In our own era, we are blessed with the Bible. The Bible is God's best and primary way of communicating His will for us. Virtually every question we have about how to live is addressed in the Bible. There is nothing that is not covered; either with regard to everyday living or our spiritual concerns. His divine power has given us everything needed for life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness.

The Bible tells us that God expects us to live in obedience to His word. That probably doesn't surprise anyone. The Bible also says that God leads by example; that He Himself also lives according to the Bible. The Apostle Paul writes, For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. God doesn't say accordance with the Scriptures. God doesn't say, "Do as I say, not as I do." It was neither easy nor pleasant for Jesus to die on the cross for our sins, but He did it anyway.

God has done the hard part for us. God's will for our lives is not in any way as difficult or challenging as His will for Jesus was. We can be confident that God has a plan for our lives, and that it is a good plan. We do not need to fly around in the dark, looking for landmarks. Like the air traffic controller, God is looking to get us to our final destination, safe and sound.

Valentine's Day Supper & Show At Valley Community

Valley Community Church has a night of great excitement planned for Valentine's Day — Satur-

day, February 14th. The evening will start by joining with your friends and neighbors for "one of the best church suppers in town." The menu consists of: baked chicken, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, two hot vegetables, tossed salad, olives, pickles, cranberry sauce, rolls with butter, and a beverage.

But it doesn't stop there. After eating all that, you still have to make your choice from the delectable, luscious, sure-fire fattening desserts. Continuous servings are available from 5:00 to 7:00

The cost is just \$7 for adults, and \$3.50 for children. We do suggest you make reservations by calling Dot at 786-6031, Shirley at 786-2576, or Jeff at 789-2552.

After eating a leisurely supper, take a quick stroll over to the Red Door Theatre. There you can enjoy a night of entertainment and comedy, provided by Margie Secora and Lyle Pearsons.

"One Enchanted Evening" is filled with music and comedy that take a slightly offbeat look at life, love, and fulfillment. Seating is cabaret style, complete with candlelit tables, a silk rose, a

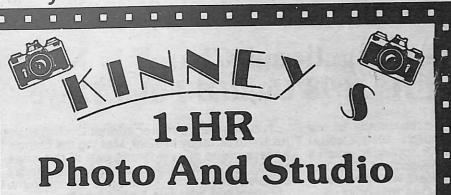
life, love, and fulfillment. Seating is cabaret style, complete with candlelit tables, a silk rose, a chocolate heart, and non-alcoholic champagne.

The cost is only \$25 per couple, and reservations are a must by calling the theatre at 789-2026. Tickets are going very fast, so we suggest you call quickly. (Note: "One Enchanted Evening" will be playing on both Friday, February 13th, and Saturday, February 14th, at 7:30 p.m.)

Valley Community Church and the Red Door Theatre are located "high on a hilltop" at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -

Rev. Peter Monahan's "Reflections" is another reason why you turn our pages every week - AAN!!!



371 Walnut St. Ext. Agawam, MA

786-4340/786-0347

Winter Special '98

- Every Monday and Thursday, bring in a roll to be developed and receive a second set of prints or a roll of film for \$1.00 (one-hour next-day service only, color only).
- Tuesday brings "buy one, get one free" on color enlargements from same 35 mm neg. (5x7, 8x10, 8x12, 11x14 only).
- On Wednesday, you buy one reprint and get the second one free from the same 35 mm or 110 mm negative (color only).
- On Fridays, when you bring in a roll of 24 exp./36 exp. to be developed, you may receive a free 5x7 from your roll (35 mm/color/one-hour service only!).

This Offer Ends March 19, 1998!

We also sell frames, matts, and do passport pictures on the premises.

...God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit...

Romans 5:5



ST. DAVID'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WORSHIP SERVICES:

SATURDAY 5 P.M.; SUNDAY 8 & 10 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & NURSERY CARE: SUNDAY 10 A.M.

699 SPRINGFIELD STREET, FEEDING HILLS-786-6133 REVEREND LEN COWAN

Church News - continued...

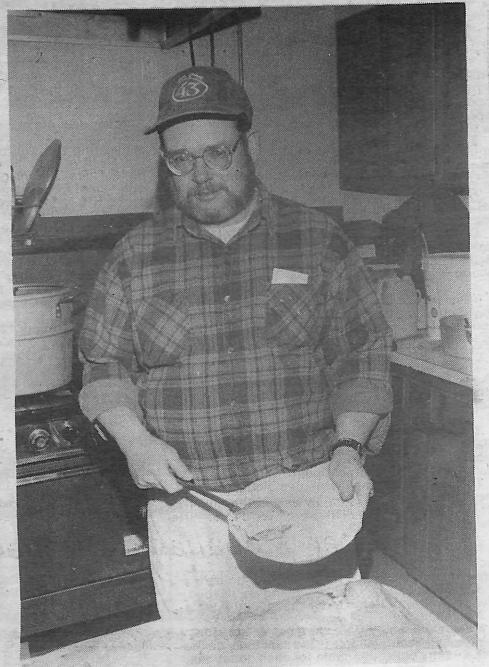
Chicken Dinner At United Methodist Church...



MATTHEW AND CHRIS GRAHAM are anxiously awaiting their stuffed chicken dinners at Agawam United Methodist Church on Saturday, January 17th. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



"LET'S GRAB A PLATE!!!": Carmela D'Angelis, Dom D'Angelis, and Lynda Garrett. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



"CHEF" DICK AINEY helps out at the Agawam United . Methodist Church's stuffed chicken dinner on Saturday, January 17th. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

For copies of photos in this edition, call AAN Photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053.



Face it. Valentine's Day can be tough on a guy who's trying to make his sweatheart happy. That's why we offer hundreds of ways to say "I love

From the most beautiful traditional roses and exotic blossoms to cuddly teddy bears and imported chocolates. Create yo basket or ask our staff for inspiration.

Make this one Valentine's Day she'll never forget.

LONGIMEADOW

739-6941

Feeding Hills Center · Longmendow Springfield . 1325 Springfield Street

"Valentine's Day Week Hours"

February 11th-14th

Monday-Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.



of the

Church APOSTLES

A Foursquare Gospel Church

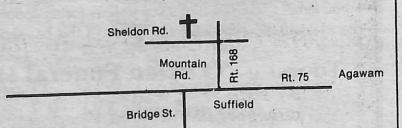
A Place Where Friends Have Yet To Meet.

• Sunday Service At 9:30.

130° 0. 120° 0. 10° 0.

 "Promise Keepers" Men's Breakfast On Alternate Saturdays.

 We Believe What The Apostles Of Jesus Did. We Don't Add, Nor Do We Take Away.



Reverend Peter Monahan (860) 668-4444 Or (413) 786-8735

Church News - continued ...

News And Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m. and will include a special collection for the West Springfield/Aga-

wam Open Pantry.

The lectionary readings for February 8th, the fifth Sunday after Epiphany, will be Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13); Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke

Rev. Donaldson will give a sermon entitled "Bigger Fish to Fry." The Lector will be Diane Fie-

Children should attend worship with their parents, leaving at a designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very

There will be another Quilting Social on Saturday, February 21st, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Even if you didn't come to the last one, you are welcome to join in the fun this time!

The Board of Christian Education will continue to collect pennies to sponsor a physically challenged youth to attend camp at Camp Hemlock in Connecticut.

The Ladies Benevolent Society will sponsor Blanket Sundays on February 15th and 22nd. Blankets in good condition will be accepted as

well as monetary contributions.

The blankets will be distributed globally where they are needed. The recent winter destruction in Maine, New York, and Canada is a perfect example of the type of areas in need of help.

This Sunday, February 8th, we will have our monthly collection for the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry, Bags of groceries and articles of clean, usable clothing are needed. Please bring your items to the Open Pantry table in the sanctuary

If you are unable to donate a bag of groceries, envelopes will be available in the sanctuary on the Open Pantry collection table for cash donations.

CONGREGATIONAL -Page 19...

Happenings At First Baptist Church

Pastor Richard Barnes will speak on "How Much Do You Love Me?", continuing in his series of sermons on the topic of love. His scriptural text will be John 15:1-17.

Greeters for the morning will be Helen Lockhart and Arline Smith. Leading the responsive reading will be Carmen Oyola.

A social hour follows worship in Davis Hall, with classes available for all ages afterward.

This week at First Baptist:
Monday, February 9th: 7:30 p.m., Word Search

Bible Study Group.

Tuesday, February 10th: 10:00 a.m., Searchlighters Bible Study; 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group.

Wednesday, February 11th: 7:15 a.m., Mid-Week Prayter Time; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open; 7:30 p.m., Church Committee (Lockhart Parlor).

Thursday, February 12th: 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:00 p.m., By-Laws Committee Meeting; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

Caring Connection contacts for the month of February are Sharon & Doug Grabowski, tel. (860) 668-0450, and Marilyn & Harold Kane, tel. 786-2757.

If you would like to contribute a page to the Lenten devotional booklet being prepared, contact Harry Durant, tel 786-2336, or Linda Scheve, tel. 789-2532

Articles should be in as soon as possible for publication in the booklet.

A new "catch-a-ride to church" program has been developed to assure transportation to Sunday morning worship services.

If you would like to attend worship on Sunday or any other event or meeting at the Church, and you need transportation, call Joanna Aversa at 786-1668 or Sharon Grabowski at (860) 668-0450.

They will be eager to see that you are able to come to church.

Check our classifieds each week!

Current Events At St. John's Church

Special thanks to those who volunteered to Lector at the 11:30 Mass in response to our urgent appeal. Eight people came forward and are ready to

Those who volunteered for our various ministries will be hearing from the various activity chairmen during the coming weeks.

Did you pick up a copy of our new Parish Hand-book, outlining the many areas of volunteering experienced here at St. John's?

They are available in the front foyer of the Church, or at the Rectory.

FINANCIAL AIR FORMS FOR 1998

Those who wish to apply for financial aid to assist in parochial school education costs may pick up a form at the Rectory Office.

A new form must be submitted each year and must be sent in by May 1st.

Yankee Pot Roast Dinner At Agawam Congregational

The Agawam Congregational Church will be holding a Yankee Pot Roast Dinner on Saturday, February 21st, at 5:30 p.m.

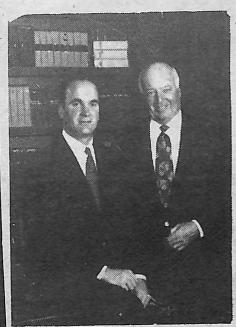
The dinner will include salad, Yankee pot roast, mashed potatoes, vegetables, rolls & butter, dessert, and beverage. The cost is \$7 for adults, and \$4 for children.

The dinner will be held at the church, located at 745 Main Street, Agawam. Reservations are recommended; however, a few walk-ins will be ac-

Reservations can be made by calling the church office at 786-7111, or Jerry Hamel at 786-2908 before 12:00 noon on Friday, February 20th.

All the hometown news with us - AAN!!!

Our Family Serving Your Family



Funeral arrangements don't have to be made the day a person dies.

Arranging a funeral at the time of death is emotionally difficult; however, in pre-planning your funeral, you take care of all the important arrangements and decisions today before the need arises. And if you choose to pre-pay, you will alleviate the financial burden on your family.

Frank & John O'Brien

Since 1885, we have served the community with care and dignity. As part of our continuing effort to help our families plan for, and ultimately deal with, the passing of loved ones, we want to make you familiar with this program. Call us for an appointment to discuss, with no obligation, the details of this beneficial program.

Toomey - O'Brien Funeral Home

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MA. REG. NO. 1842

Fitness First Presents A New Concept in Fitness Training...

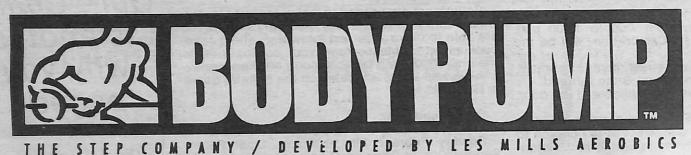
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From the **first club** in Western Mass to bring you the following popular fitness trends in health clubs:

Step Aerobics & 'Spinning'!

Now brings you...



BODY PUMP is the first fitness phenomenon to combine the body changing results of weight training and motivating music conducted in the group fitness studio.

You won't see **BODY PUMP** at any other area club! We guarantee it!

And now through February 28th, you can try any of our fitness programs with a

FREE 10 Day Trial Membership!

Simply call the club to redeem the pass below & begin your new trial membership! You'll see why Fitness First is the <u>first & only</u> club for you!

Free 10 Day Trial Membership

\$25 VALUE!

This pass entitles guest to use of Fitness First facilities.

Appointment required. Must be 18 years or older and 1st time trial member.

Pump it up at the "FIRST" CLUB IN THE AREA!



60 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030 413-786-1460 Redeem by 2/28/98





60 N. Westfield Street - Rt. 187 - Feeding Hills Center 413-786-1460 Church News - continued ...

Weekly Calendar Of **Events From Agawam** Congregational Church

The Adult Education Class meets each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the Friendship Room of Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam. This week's class will be led by Dan

Pender, Christian Education/Youth Director.

The theme for Sunday will be "Here I Am Lord;
Send Me." All are welcome to attend.

This Sunday, February 8th, is the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany. Worship continues at 10:30 a.m.
The Sermon given by Rev. Fuller will be "Here I Am Lord; Send Me," taken from Text: Isaiah 6:1-8. Rev. Fuller's Children's Message will be "Sending

Messages."
The "Growing in God's Spirit" Campaign Visitors will be commissioned this Sunday during the Worship Service.

The Friendship Committee is sponsoring a Pot Luck Supper this Sunday, February 8th, at 5:30 p.m. A-M bring a casserole or main dish; N-Z bring a salad.

Dessert and beverages will be provided by the Friendship Committee. Entertainment for the evening will be Ed Popielarczyk's "Magical Moments."

The Open Pantry item for this Sunday is spaghetti sauce.

Items collected will be donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

Join us on February 14th for our church adult Valentine's Day Party from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Chuck Malloy, of Music Celebration, will be the D.J. for the party.

There will be music, refreshments, contests, door prizes, raffles, and more! Bring a friend! Tickets are \$5 and will be available at the door.

The next Loaves & Fishes Program is Monday, February 16th, at 4:00 p.m. Meet at the church to -carpool over to the kitchen in Springfield. Return by 6:00 p.m.

Anyone wishing to help serve may join us. Donations of elbow macaroni and tomato sauce are always needed for the prepared dinner.

On February 20th, the Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups are planning a Cross Country Ski Trip to Northfield Mountain Ski Center. Rental and in-struction will be provided at the Ski Center. Pizza and music back at the United Church in Bernardston following the ski trip.

All this for only \$12. Bring a friend and join the

Valley Community Church To Hold A Pancake Breakfast Prior To Sunday Worship

The doors of Valley Community Church open at 7:00 a.m. on Sunday, February 8th as members and friends enjoy a Pancake Breakfast. The breakfast is sponsored by the youth of the church as they raise funds towards their Heifer Project.
They are more than halfway towards their goal

of purchasing a pig and are hopeful that this breakfast will take them over the top. All are invited to attend.

The cost is only \$3 per person and includes pancakes, sausage, bacon, muffins, coffee, tea, and juice. Continuous servings are available until 9:00 a.m. We then invite everyone to join us for wor-

The joy of knowing Jesus Christ is spreading like wildfire at Valley Community Church. Both members and visitors can feel the spirit of God

filling the Sanctuary on Sunday morning.
On February 8th, Pastor Steve Dennehy will share the message taken from Luke 5:1-11. He will explain how we, like the fishermen, must work together, have courage, labor diligently, and not give up easily as we, by faith, do God's work.

What ideal qualities for disciples of Jesus Christ!! We warmly invite anyone who is searching for these qualities in their lives to join us for worship at 9:30 a.m.

All children of the church will depart from the Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. for Children's Church. Here the children will listen to the same

F.H. CONGREGATIONAL - from Page 18...

Volunteers are needed to make desserts for the Open Pantry on Wednesday, February 11th. If you are able to make a dessert (brownies, sheet cake, cookies, etc.), please have your contribution to the church kitchen by 12:00 noon on Wednesday.

A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in Griswold Hall.

Friday, February 6th: 7:00 p.m., Radio Club. Sunday, February 8th: 10:00 a.m., Open Pantry Sunday; Junior Choir practice after church.

Monday, February 9th: 4:00 to 5:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Cub Scouts. Tuesday, February 10th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:30 p.m., Stewardship and Missions.

Wednesday, February 11th: Desserts needed for Open Pantry; 7:00 p.m., Choir; 7:30 p.m., Christian Ed; 7:30 p.m., Cub Scout Committee. Thursday, February 12th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Check our classified ads every week!

message taken from the gospel of Luke, but worded so they can understand it and be able to apply

this lesson to their own lives.

Coffee and Fellowship, which begins at 10:30
a.m., is a time for all in the church to gather for good snacks and great conversation as we greet

fellow members and visitors alike.

Church school is held from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Classes are available for everyone from kindergarten right through to adults. Nursery care is available for all parents of young children who may want to attend adult classes.

The monthly meeting of the **Board of Administration** will meet on Monday, February 9th at 7:00 p.m. in Dunn Hall.

Junior Choir will gather on Wednesday, February 11th at 6:15 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., at which time the Senior Choir will meet.

Cub Scout Troop 78, Den 3 will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, February 12th at 6:15 p.m. in Dunn Hall.

The Supper Committee will be busy preparing for our monthly Chicken Supper on Saturday, February 14th. Please see a separate notice in this paper for further information.

Valley Community Church is located at 152 South Westfield St. and warmly invites all who are searching for a church home to attend worship on Sunday morning.

Our "Church News" is another reason why you turn our pages ... AAN!!!

"Social action is more than giving of your checkbook. It's giving of yourself."



First Hour Forum Sundays 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. Ideas and discussion on a current topic.

Unitarian Universalist Society of Greater Springfield

245 Porter Lake Dr. • Spfld. • 736-2324

Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

Lordy, Lordy Look Who's Happy Birthday, Ken



Darleen, Kevin, & Brian



Understanding Heart Healthiness

Presented by

Reed Shnider, M.D. and Trisha Porter, R.N., B.S.N., A.C.L.S. Certified

Learn more about Risk Factors and Prevention of Heart Disease

Thursday, February 12, 1998



5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Conference Room A Noble Hospital



Light refreshments will be served. Seating is limited. Registration is required. For free registration call (413) 568-2328



Spotlight On Business

Westbank Reports Best **Financial Results In** Its 35-Year History

Donald R. Chase, President and Chief Executive Officer of Westbank Corporation (NASDA-Q/WBKC), reported the best financial results in Westbank Corporation's 35-year history

Net income for 1997 totaled \$3,231,000 or basic earnings per share of \$0.93, a 44 percent increase compared to \$2,248,000 or \$0.63 per share for

For the quarter ending December 31, 1997, earnings totaled \$1,039,000, representing basic earnings per share of \$0.29, a 71 percent increase versus earnings of \$606,000 or \$0.18 per share for the quarter ended December 31, 1996.

In addition to record earnings, the Corporation achieved two strategic corporate objectives, namely a return on average assets of 1.07 percent

and a return on average equity of 15.03 percent.

As of December 31, 1997, assets totaled \$308.3
million, an increase of \$23.4 million or 8.2 percent compared to December 31, 1996, while loans increased by \$14.2 million for the same period and totaled \$232.4 million.

At year end, the Corporation's capital was \$23.8 million, representing a capital ratio of 7.7 percent, while the Corporation's book value totaled \$6.63. The Corporation's market capitalization reached \$46.6 million, with the common stock price closing at \$13.00 on December 31, 1997, an increase of 37 percent over year end 1996.

Deposits increased by \$16.1 million during the past year. "The increase is attributable to the success of the Bank's new Platinum Money Market Account, which was introduced this past summer and has attracted more than \$12 million in just a short time," Chase said.

At the end of the year, non-performing assets totaled just \$1.4 million, and the Corporation's allowance for loan losses was at \$2.8 million. The allowance for loan losses now stands at 1.21 percent of total loans.

Chase added, "The Corporation is still on target with a spring opening of our next branch office in the town of Ludlow, and we look forward to oppor-tunities in a new market."

Forastiere Staff To Attend Special **Training Program**

The staff of the Forastiere Funeral Homes will be attending a special training program titled "Confidently Riding and Navigating the Winds of Change" on February 19th.

The presenter is Dr. Steve Sobel, popular speaker, trainer, and author on team-building and customer-retention topics. The program is being organized by Mark Smith.

Forastiere Funeral Homes are committed to superior customer service and special service to families/individuals in need. The Homes are located in East Longmeadow and other locations.

Be sure to support your local businesses!!!



Stearns & Yerrall Awards Agawam Sales Associates

Mary Leahey, President of Stearns & Yerrall, Inc. Realtors, is pleased to announce that the following Agawam sales associates received awards for outstanding achievement in 1997:

Peg Ryan placed number one in the company
and received the Producer of the Year award.

Among those to receive Top Sales Performance

awards were Peg Ryan and Sue Moore.

Receiving Sales Performance recognition awards were Karen Charbonneau and Linda

The award for the Most Transactions in the Agawam office was given to Sue Moore.

Giant Step honors were presented to Karen

Charbonneau.

Receiving a Commitment to Service award was Sue Moore with Top Honors, and the honor roll includes Peg Ryan.

Each associate was presented an award for his/her outstanding achievement at the Annual Stearns & Yerrall Awards Gala held on January 22nd at Chez Josef in Agawam.

Best local news...

Pam Savioli

Landry, Lyons & Whyte Co./Better Homes & Gardens



The Right Time To Buy

If you're thinking about buying your first home, here are some facts about homeownership that may help you make a decision to buy soon.

 Homeownership can be a good investment opportunity. A house offers leverage and the possibility for appreciation in value.

 Mortgage interest and property taxes are taxdeductible, so homeownership can save you money each year.

 Young people aren't priced out of the market according to the National Association of Realtors, the average age of first-time buyers is 32 years-old.

• Renting doesn't protect you against rising price. Rental units are faced with increases in taxes, insurance, and utilities - and those costs will be passed on to tenants.

The waiting game is a losing game. Don't put off buying a home waiting for prices to come

For more information on buying a home, call Pam Savioli at (413) 748-7565.

INSPIRATIONS FOR A CURE

Special Honoree: Millie Kelly RD., LD. Ketogenic Diet Program, Johns Hopkins Univ. Hospital



Silent Auction!! Mastercard/Visa Accepted

MUSIC BY: DJ-ROCCO **PRODUCTIONS**

WESTERN MASS EPILEPSY AWARENESS COMMITTEE **4TH ANNUAL DINNER DANCE**

CHEZ JOSEF, SHOEMAKER LANE, AGAWAM, MA

Saturday, March 7, 1998 © 6 pm - 1 am

Tickets: \$25 per person

The proceeds from this event will benefit the Boston Children's Hospital - Epilepsy Unit, the Epilepsy Association of MA, and the Pediatric Neurology Dept. of Baystate Medical Center Help us to help others understand epilepsy and to find a cure!

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE BY CALLING:

Sue and Wayne Hearn 789-1529 Sharon and Sean Collins 789-0058 Kim and Rick Martel 786-1169 Maria and John Pietroniro 786-5770

Please return the following with your check by Feb. 10, 1998 To: The Western Mass Epilepsy Awareness Committee c/o Carol Pietroniro 34 Cedar Knoll Drive Feeding Hills, MA 01030 Tables may be reserved for 10 or more.

lease send my tickets to:	# of Tickets:
Name:Address:	I am unable to attend. Please accept my donation: Total amount enclosed:

Address:

Spotlight On Business - continued...

Legal Memo

by Alan J. Ferrigno, Esq. 546 Springfield St., F.H. (413) 786-9454



Small Claims Procedure

A function of the District Courts is the administration of the small claims procedure, which is a simple, informal, and speedy procedure for the determination of claims in the nature of contract or tort, other than slander or libel, in which plantiff's claim does not exceed \$2,000. Actions which may be brought under the small claims procedure are not required to be brought under that procedure but may be brought in the usual manner by a civil action.

In 1973, the entire small claims procedure was overhauled by two separate legislative enactments. Among the principal provisions are that the action may now be brought in the judicial district in which the defendant lives or has his usual place of business, or where he is employed; the finding for the plantiff in the District Court is prima facie evidence in the trial by jury of six if the defendant appeals; and, neither party is entitled to a report, but the District Court judge may submit the matter as a case stated to the Appellate Division of the District Court.

The plaintiff, by electing to follow the small claims procedure, loses his right to a jury trial, as does the defendant unless he removes the cause to a jury of six session in the District Court on appeal. Unless the cause is so removed, the judgment of the District Court is final in the sense that neither party has any right of appeal to the Superior Court.

New rules have been adopted for small claims actions - Uniform Small Claims Rules. A simple statement filed with the clerk of the appropriate District Court, together with the filing fee of less than \$20, is sufficient to commence the action. Upon this filing, the Court will set a date for a hearing on the matter.

The clerk then sends a double notice to the defendant - one notice by certified mail, return receipt requested and the other by first class mail. The certified mail notice will be deemed sufficient notice though it is unclaimed or refused so long as the notice by first class mail is not returned to the court undelivered. This is an improvement over the earlier system which caused problems for plaintiffs in effectuating service.

The defendant may file a letter of defense though he is not required to answer in any form to avoid being defaulted. There are provisions for counter-claims and amendments. No pre-trial attachment of property is permitted. Participation by attorneys may be limited by the court and non-lawyers shall be permitted to assist both parties.

lawyers shall be permitted to assist both parties.
At the time and date set for the hearing, the parties should be prepared to put on their case, including live witnesses, exhibits, photographs, and the like. The defendant should be prepared to defend in a like manner.

The Court will usually take the matter under advisement and issue its written decision within 10 days. The defendant has 30 days to appeal the decision.

Attorney Alan J. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

Think it's expensive? FREE ESTIMATES ON... Decks Roofs Windows Additions Homes Think again. Think again. ENTERPRISES AGAWAM MA 789-1509 FULLY LICENSED & INSURED

"Betting" For Open Pantry...



AT A RECENT MEETING of the Agawam/West Springfield Rotary Club at Storrowton Tavern, William Shepard (left) presented a check for \$100 to Jennifer Cummings, Executive Director of the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry. The check represents a "bet" that was made during the Thanksgiving Day football game between AHS and West Side. Looking on is Tim Ayre (right), President of the Rotary Club. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

DOES THE IRS OWE YOU MONEY?

Use IRS e-file—and get your tax refund in half the time it usually takes. Even faster with Direct Deposit.

IRS e-file is simple and secure. There's quick proof your return is accepted. And it's so accurate, there's less chance you'll get a letter from the IRS.

To find out more, see your tax professional or look in your tax booklet.

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Please remember that our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays.



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Feeding Hills Medical Center

Ira Nathanson, M.D. • Gary Jacobson, D.O.

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Hampden County Medical Group Inc. Is Pleased to Announce

Vijay Patel, M.D.

(formerly of Northside Medical Center)

Has Joined Feeding Hills Medical Center

Hours: Monday through Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Most Major Insurance Plans Accepted

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LABORATORY ON-SITE

Spotlight On Business - continued...

THE PIONEER GROUP To **Host Home-Buying Seminar**

The offices of THE PIONEER GROUP are sponsoring a free public service workshop entitled "Buying a Home ... What the Banks Don't Tell You."

It will be held Saturday morning, February 14th, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the West Springfield Professional Center, 1111 Elm Street, Suite 21, in

Topics to be discussed include the various government federal loan programs that are currently available to first-time and move-up home-buyers; understanding points and closing costs, and how to minimize these fees; understanding seller contributions; the difference between a bank and a mortgage company, and which one offers the better value; and much more.

The information contained in this 90-minute seminar may save today's first-time and move-up buyers thousands of dollars.

Speakers at the workshop include Donald Thompson, a Principal of THE

PIONEER GROUP, and Raymond Rose, a retired mortgage banker.

The workshop is free of charge and reservations are suggested; their last seminar was filled to capacity. For more information, please listen to the recorded info message at 846-0981, and for reservations, please dial

Those that attend the workshop will receive a free copy of their credit report along with an application for a free mortgage pre-approval.

BUSINESS REVIEW

Reader Ads In This Section Prepared By Contract Advertising, Inc. ©1998 All Rights Reserved.

Whip City Gymnastics

Whip City Gymnastics is conveniently located in Southwick at 320 College Highway and may be reached by calling 569-3231. Many parents who are concerned about their children's physical and emotional development are finding that gymnastic instruction is well able to serve these needs. Besides teaching a skill which may take your child to the Olympics, the instructors at Whip City Gymnastics have found that many of their students possess greater coordination and confidence as a result of learning this art of movement.

Learning here is always an enjoyable experience. The area among the best in the area. Their instructors specialize in gymnastics. Whip City Gymnastics offers classes for children beginning at age three. Older youths and adults can also enroll in beginning, intermediate and advanced classes.

Whip City Gymnastics offers the finest gymnastic instruction in the area and at most reasonable rates. The

Whip City Gymnastics offers the finest gymnastic instruction in the area and at most reasonable rates. The junior Olympian at your house will be surprised how much fun, and how rewarding gymnastics can be. Call now to enroll yourself or your son or daughter in the next available class. Their enjoyment and success here will make you glad you did. Owners/Instructors, Fred and Shannon invite you to stop in for additional information and a tour of the facility.

D.Y. Paint & Paper Douglas Yeaw, Owner

A name well-respected throughout the area for professional painting, paper hanging and ceramic tile contracting work is D.Y. Paint & Paper, located in Agawam at 11 Edgewood Lane, phone 789-3251 or toll-free 1-800-789-3251. Their services range from small residential decorating to large remodeling projects.

They have had much experience in these fields and can guarantee you a perfect job at a realistic price. Regardless if it's brush or roller, you are assured of a first-class job. Interiors and exteriors are admirably done by their experienced painters who are licensed and insured for your protection. Regardless of the wall coverings the professionals have the knowledge and expertise to assure your total satisfaction. Grass their experienced painters who are licensed and insured for your protection. Regardless of the wall coverings you have selected, these professionals have the knowledge and expertise to assure your total satisfaction. Grass cloth and mylar papers as well as custom border trims are specialties of this firm. They also have the training and experience to properly install ceramic tile so that the tiled surface is as attractive and long-lasting as possible. Complete clean-up of all work areas is another of their appreciated services.

If it is suggestions you need to help you decide on the job, **D.Y. Paint & Paper** is more than capable of answering any question and will gladly give you an estimate. They are a full-service painting and decorating company. Remember, expert workmanship, quality products and years of experience are your guarantees of an excellent job. Remember **D.Y. Paint & Paper**—you'll be glad you did.

TJ Mechanical Services, Inc.

You can enjoy a more comfortable environment at work or home when you contract with TJ Mechanical

You can enjoy a more comfortable environment at work or home when you contract with TJ Mechanical Services for the design and installation of an air conditioning and heating system. Located in Agawam and serving western Massachusetts and northern Connecticut, phone 789-4886, these air and heat specialists offer the finest products, installation services and repairs for commercial, industrial and residential customers.

TJ Mechanical Services can survey your particular needs and design a system that will provide efficient and economical heating and cooling. They install central air and heating systems, ventilation systems, duct work, gas and oil furnaces and boilers. Heating system conversions from electric to gas or oil are provided. They also specialize in complete commercial and industrial refrigeration services. The quality of their products is surpassed only by the quality of their services. Emergency service is available as well as regular maintenance contracts. Energy management and humidity control are other features of their climate control services.

Whether you need a unit repaired or a complete system installed, the licensed professionals of

Whether you need a unit repaired or a complete system installed, the licensed professionals of TJ Mechanical Services can handle the job with the utmost of competence in the shortest time possible. If you're looking for air conditioning and heating work characterized by quality, reliability and low rates, contact the people at TJ Mechanical Services. Their work is the finest available.

Kleer Choice Windshield Repair

Bob Graveline, Owner

A broken windshield from an accident is not very pleasant. If this problem occurs, you should contact a professional and have the situation remedied as quickly, efficiently and cost effectively as possible. The professionals at Kleer Choice Windshield Repair, phone 821-8949, offer the people of this area fast emergency mobile

service for the repair of broken windshields.

Most windshield breaks and cracks are repairable, and the cost is in many cases far lower than the cost of replacing the entire windshield. Through modern methods, your windshield can be repaired both structurally and optically. The staff at Kleer Choice Windshield Repair are experts when it comes to automobile glass and can answer any questions you may have concerning repairs of any of your vehicle's broken windows. You will like doing business with the knowledgeable people here, and can be sure that their price will be a fair one. If the repair process is not possible they also provide replacement services.

Remember, when you need broken or cracked glass in your automobile repaired or replaced, call the auto glass experts at Kleer Choice Windshield Repair at 821-8949. Their superior service has earned them an

Champagne Drywall, Inc. Established 1980

Some parts of the interior of your home or business are more noticeable than others. If you are building a new home or commercial building, adding on or remodeling, you want attractive and durable walls and ceilings. For the finest in drywall, plastering, ceiling installation, and wall and ceiling finishing, call Champagne Drywall at 786-4989. They are located in Agawam at 36 Russo Circle, and provide residential

The experienced craftsmen at Champagne Drywall specialize in drywall applications, steel stud framing, sheet-rocking and plastering. Acoustical ceilings and exterior insulation systems are installed, and repair work is also welcomed. Call them for more information or for a no-obligation estimate on the interior work that you need done. Quality products are always used by Champagne Drywall so that your walls and ceilings will be long desting. Constitution by consert confermen ensures an attractive appearance as well as expects level. long-lasting. Careful installation by expert craftsmen ensures an attractive appearance as well as smooth, level surfaces and they always clean up after every job. They are fully insured and bonded for your protection. Recently completed projects include Holyoke Crossing and the Atrium in Agawam, current projects include Taco Bell in West Springfield and new home construction at Fox Meadow Estates in Feeding Hills.

For any job, large or small, contractors and homeowners alike in this area know who to call. Because of their superior products and services, Champagne Drywall has earned a reputation second to none.

Be sure to patronize all of the local businesses that are highlighted in our "Spotlight On Business."

The Choice of Wise Investors WESTBANK'S



Interest rates can only go up... never down

Westbank's GR Certificates have long been the choice of wise investors. Westbank's GR Certificates protect you from declines in interest rates while allowing you to benefit from increases.

Annual Percentage 'ield*

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

The interest rate and the annual percentage yield will be reviewed on a semi-annual basis, five times during the term of the certificate.

Specifically, these reviews will be done on the first business day of January and July of each year. The reviewed GR rate will be based upon the most recently auctioned rate of the six month U.S. Treasury Bill prior to the review date. If the U.S. Treasury Bill rate is higher, the certificate rate will increase. However, if the U.S. Treasury Bill rate is lower, the starting rate will remain in effect until the next review.

CALL 747-1400

PARK WEST BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) assumes interest remains on deposit for one year at stated rate of Annual Percentage Tield (AFT) assumes interest remains on deposit for one year at stated rate of interest. Minimum balance to open and earn APY is \$500.00. Interest compounded and credited to the account monthly. APY is accurate as of 1/27/98. This offer may be withdrawn at any time. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Deposits are ED.1.C. insured to \$100,000.

MEMBER ED.LC.



For Your Health

Shriners To Focus Attention On Child Burn Prevention

During "Burn Awareness Week" (February 8 to 14, 1998), the Shriners of North America members of the fraternal organization that operates the 22 Shrine Hospitals for Children, are asking parents and other caregivers to be aware of the dangers posed by cigarette lighters and to take steps to keep their children safe.

"The greatest tragedy is that these deaths and injuries are preventable," said Lewis B. Brantley, the Shrine's Imperial Potentate and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Shriners Hospitals.

Each year, more than 200 deaths are associated with fires started by cigarette lighters. Most of the victims are under five years-old. Cigarette lighters are also associated with more than 15,000 fires and thousands of injuries every year.

There are simple, effective steps parents can take to protect their children from serious burn in-

 Teach children that matches and lighters are tools for adults only.

 Keep matches and lighters out of reach. preferably in a locked cabinet or drawer.

Children as young as 18 months have been able to start a lighter by pushing it against a hard

 Teach children to tell an adult about lighters and matches they may find.

 Buy and use only child-resistant lighters. Never allow young children to use a lighter as a "spark toy.

The 22 Shrine Hospitals provide orthopaedic and burn care free of charge to children up to their 18th birthday. Shrine Hospitals providing burn care are located in Boston, Cincinnati, Galveston.

Breast Cancer Support Group To Meet At Mercy Hospital

The Breast Cancer Support Group, sponsored by the Women's Pavilion at Mercy Hospital, will meet on February 17th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the . Women's Pavilion, 299 Carew Street, Springfield.

The group is open to women who have experienced mastectomy or other breast surgery, or who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. Family and friends are welcome to attend and share their experiences and concerns.

For more information, call the Women's

Pavilion at (413) 748-9080.



CIGARETTE LIGHTERS AND CHILDREN DON'T MIX!!! This is just one of the important messages of "Burn Awareness Week" (February 8th-14th), which is being observed by the Shriners of North America.

Weldon Center Slates Weldon Mobile Next Chronic Pain Support Group Mtg.

The Weldon Center for Rehabilitation at Mercy Hospital sponsors a free Chronic Pain Support Group for sufferers, their families, and friends. The next meetings will be conducted on February 10th and 24th from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in room 224 of the Weldon Center, 233 Carew Street.

The group is led by Glenn Fagen, Ph.D., a clinical neuropsychologist at the Weldon Center. Dr. Fagen will discuss new technologies. theories, and treatments for chronic pain; participants will have the opportunity to share experiences and learn pain management techni-

For more information, call Dr. Fagen. (413) 748-6996.

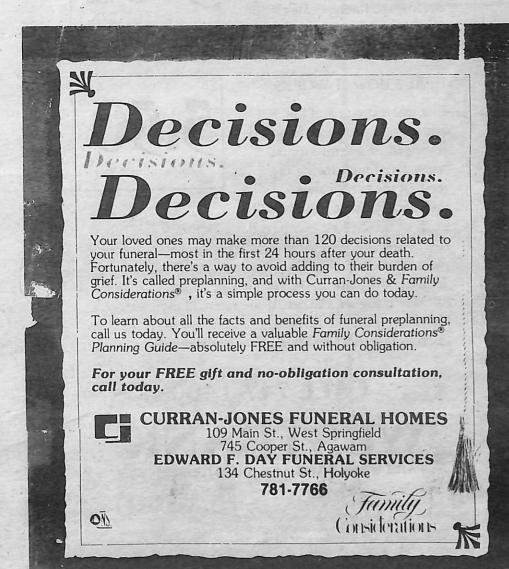
Hearing Van To Visit **Agawam Senior Center**

Mercy Hospital's Weldon Mobile Hearing Center will conduct free hearing screenings and hearing aid checks on February 23rd at the

Agawam Senior Center, beginning at 9:00 a.m.
In addition, full diagnostic hearing tests, evaluations, fittings, and sales and service of hearing aids/assistive-listening devices, can be scheduled on a fee-for-service basis.

The hearing van's audiology equipment is operated by nationally-certified audiologists from the Weldon Hearing Center at Mercy Hospital.

For a reservation, call the Agawam Senior Center at 786-0400, ext. 242.

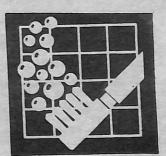


Children's Dental Health Month

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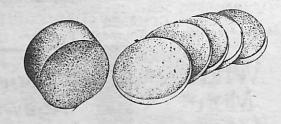
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For Your Health - continued...



Chiropractic Care by Dr. Tami Nelson Chiropractic Physician **Hampden County** Chiropractic 850 Springfield St. Feeding Hills 786-4820

The Benefits Of Massage...

(This week's column has been submitted by Sharon Broggi, the massage therapist at our of-

When I graduated from massage school, my mother, who has always been very supportive of me, said, "That's wonderful, Sharon, but who gets a massage?" No one in my family had ever received a professional massage, and we didn't know anyone who did either.

Mom was skeptical about the demand for massage. I, on the other hand, was much more confident. "Mom," I told her, "just about everyone should get a massage.

While it is true that the wealthy who patronized expensive spas may have paved the way, massage isn't only a luxury. Quite often, it is a

With some exceptions for certain conditions, everyone can benefit from massage. Not only does it feel good, it is good for you. There aren't many things you can say that about! Massage loosens tight muscles, increases blood circulation, and makes the recipients more aware of their entire bodies.

Obviously, this is good for athletes - people who rely on top physical performance for their livelihoods. But shouldn't we all expect top performance? Physical laborers such as construction workers, farmers, landscapers, and many others also rely on being physically able to not only perform the work, but to continue to do so day after day, week after week, for years. A deep tissue massage once a month would go a long way towards relieving overworked muscles.

Office work, such as sitting for eight hours a

day in front of a computer or on the phone for long periods of time, puts a whole new set of strains on the body. Repetitive motions, poor posture, stress, and little opportunity for large muscle movements all lead to sore, tight muscles. A regular massage at the end of the week can reduce headaches, help improve posture, and loosen the muscles of the hand and forearm to help prevent Carpal Tunnel syndrome.

Retail workers and nurses are among the professionals who spend many hours a day on their feet. Therapeutic work on the feet, legs, and low back can feel heavenly. Massage can ease away an entire spectrum of school and points. an entire spectrum of aches and pains.

An hour-long session with no demands upon you except to relax - what could be better after a long, demanding day at work? The space to relax gives you time to build up new energy for the next

In addition to the physical benefits, there are emotional benefits. We know that touch can make us feel loved and cared for, whether it is as simple as a touch on the hand or as encompassing as a

Many people, especially the elderly, are not touched as often as they need. Many have lost their spouses, children have moved away, and grandchildren visit infrequently. Who touches you? A half-hour of touch — of complete attention to you and your needs - can let you know you are not alone.

Massage is not for everyone. There are il-Inesses and injuries that are contraindicated for massage, such as some heart conditions or skin cancer that will spread.

Some conditions are local; that is, the area affected should be avoided, such as a rash or bruises. Others are general; that is, the entire body should not be massaged, as during a fever. If you have a medical condition, speak to your primary care physician before making an appoint-

Massage is receiving growing acceptance from the public, the medical community, and insurance companies. It is no longer a luxury; it is a step towards good health.

Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA, 786-4820.

Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph S. Schlaffer Schlaffer Chiropractic Offices 192 Shoemaker Lane Agawam

Books Can Distort Youngsters

It is during the developmental years of childhood that serious structural problems of the spine have their beginnings. We see spinal curvatures or scoliosis and other structural distortions beginning due to the seemingly harmless ways that our kids grow up.

Chiropractors have long advocated that children should have their spines examined early in life. More and more patients are introducing their children to the chiropractic method of health care because they know that the growing years are the most important years of a person's life.

Witness your child carrying an armload of his or her schoolbooks daily and you'll see some of the

stress the spine is subject to. You may have seen one of your children falling off a bicycle or "wiping out" on a skateboard.

Watch your youngster play football, soccer, wrestling, gymnastics, and you witness hundreds of jolts and jars to his or her body per season. You begin to realize that chiropractic care is important in detecting and correcting any imbalances or misalignments of the spine.

Before the skeletal/spinal system accommodates itself to these maladies in early childhood, they can be easily and affectively cor-

Children suffer from a variety of ailments/symptoms which are manifestations of the traumas they sustain. Oftentimes they are treated with medication. Instead, the health problem may be a malfunctioning nervous system. The doctor of chiropractic corrects the underlying cause and the symptoms vanish without the need of medications which may have serious, harmful

side effects.

Shouldn't your child have a chiropractic examination?

Should additional information be needed, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or any member of my office staff at 192 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam, MA 01001

Support Groups & Courses At Noble Hospital

SUPPORT GROUPS Diabetes: Tuesday, February 24th, 1 p.m., Conference Room A, Noble Hospital, 115 West Silver Street, Westfield. Free of charge and open to all suffering from diabetes and their support persons. Gregory Braden, M.D., will speak at this meeting about kidney disease and the diabetes

Crohn's and Colitis: Tuesday, February 17th, 7:00 p.m., Conference Room A, Noble Hospital. Free of charge and open to all suffering from Crohn's or Colitis and their support persons. Paul Farkas will speak at this meeting about coping with inflammatory bowel disease.

COURSES Heart Healthiness: Thursday, February 12th, 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., Conference Room A, Noble Hospital. Free of charge and seating is limited; to register, call Health Beat at (413) 568-2328. Dr. Reed Shnider and Trisha Porter, R.N., will provide information about heart disease risk factors and prevention along with a risk assessment for those interested.

CPR: Two-part course - Wednesday, February 18th and 25th, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m., Education Department/Ground Floor, Noble Hospital. This course provides American Heart Association Adult, Child, and Infant certification. Cost of the course is \$40. To register or obtain more information, contact the Noble Hospital Education Department at (413) 568-2811, ext. 5914.

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For Your Health - continued ...

Managing YOUR STRESS





Bring Humor And Laughter To Life Every Day...

Let's start off this column by first assuring you that you do not have to become a stand-up comedian to reap the benefits of the humor/better life connection. Humor, to me, represents a sort of contagious attitude whose roots lie in the belief that many times we need to take the edge off the often harsh daily realities of life, both at work and

People who feel that humor is an important survival skill learn very quickly how vital it is to be able to laugh at themselves and to lighten up, to not catastrophize or crucialize when something goes wrong or does not meet their expectations entirely. They are truly able to recognize and appreciate their limitations in a lighthearted man-

A Conscious Choice

People who see life as imperfect and give themselves permission to see the light side develop what I call "comic vision." What comic vision does is allow a person to take big situations and see that every — well, almost every — situation has small pockets of humor/levity within it if we care to look for it. This can be illustrated perhaps in a workplace situation.

Let's say that coming towards you is a person whom you would prefer to avoid if at all possible. You have a choice. You can start the basic stress reaction by working yourself up and getting hostile and sarcastic, or you can start to enjoy using your comic vision. In this case, it may mean that instead of getting yourself ready for an upset, you start to use your musical talents and hum the theme of the movie Jaws as the person moves steadily towards you. (I personally enjoy humming

the theme of *The Twilight Zone.*)

By responding with "lightness" to the potential threat, you have delivered the message to yourself that increasing stress levels is, many times, a conscious choice, although many people would rather blame others for their levels of tension and negative attitude. You can bring humor into your lives in these small but significant ways.



Another way to bring humor into your life is to create the HUMOR BULLETIN BOARD in the home or workplace. Obtain a bulletin board of decent size and put it up at work or at home without completely destroying the walls. On the humor bulletin board, you can start the ball rolling by placing funny cartoons, funny sayings, funny pictures, funny misprints from newspapers and magazines, and anything else that helps people laugh with each other, not at each other.

You may be surprised at the level of involvement you will get from people at home and at work. Humor and laughter are what I call "binding agents." They bring people together even in times of trouble, confusion, grief, and anger. Humor is a great leveler/balancer in difficult and challenging

Physiological Benefits

I believe that humor is the recipe for all seasons. It does not take much time to prepare, it usually never spoils (it's interesting how old jokes and anecdotes get better with age), and it does not put on weight. In fact, it has been said that if you involve yourself in a few really moving belly laughs each day, your tummy gets in shape as do

your tear ducts.

The physiological benefits of laughing are becoming more well known each day. Many claim that enhanced immune system functioning, as well as improved circulation and respiratory functioning, are a few of the benefits. I personally feel

like I have cast off any emotional weights from my shoulders when I laugh so hard that I cry.

I have had people also report to me that muscles tend to really relax and lose tension when they laugh. Many of these same people take a great deal of pride in wetting their underwear because they lose muscle control often enough. They wish this daily blessing on you! They wish this daily blessing on you!

Interestingly enough, some of the physiological effects that laughing is believed to produce are

Helps the brain produce endorphins. These are natural relaxing agents.

Opens up circulatory paths and promotes deep breathing. This, in turn, pushes blood to the

Provides a workout for lungs, heart, and torso.

Helps tense muscles relax.

Reminds you that your facial muscles enjoy laughter/levity rather than frowning/scowling.

Dr. Stephen Sobel is a regular columnist in The AAN...

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So, come in, enjoy our new expanded and redecorated office and join us for a cup of coffee. We have a rose for each adult while supplies last, and chocolate Valentine hearts for youngsters (up to 12 years old) all week long.

You'll also have an opportunity to register for a drawing of a big screen television and a VCR, so be sure to stop in at our Agawam office between Monday, Feb. 9 and Saturday, Feb. 14.



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For Your Health - continued...



Food Thought

by Nancy Dell Registered Dietician

Eat Fish Once A Week...

Each year, more than a quarter of a million Americans suffer sudden cardiac death, due mainly to blocked heart arteries causing the heart's normal rhythm to beat wildly out of control. There's new evidence that eating fish could the the coolean against a man duing suddenly from tip the scales against a man dying suddenly from a heart attack.

Dr. Christine Albert of Brigham and Women's Hospital says, "We found that the men who ate fish at least once a week had a reduced risk of sudden cardiac death." Reporting in the Journal of American Medical Association, Dr. Albert and a team from Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital found one serving of fish per week reduced a man's risk of sudden cardiac death by more

than 50 percent. Though this study can't tell why previous animal studies have shown that fish oil known as Omega Three fatty acids, protects against rhythm disturbances during a heart attack. Dr. Albert says while there's no reason not to eat one or more servings of fish a week, there is an important caveat

to this story.
She says, "Our study cannot prove that fish caused this reduction in risk. It could be other characteristics of the men who eat fish once a week that could have been helping reduce the risk of sudden cardiac death.

More research needs to be done to conclusively determine whether or not it's the fish responsible for the sudden heart death protection; whether the benefit extends to women; and whether fish oil capsules alone have the same effect as eating

As far as the type of seafood, the study found it didn't seem to matter. "I think the take-home

message from this study is that if you like to eat fish, this is great news; that you can continue to do it, and that eating fish at least once a week might benefit you, especially if you're a man, by reducing your risk of sudden cardiac death," says Dr. Albert.

The study was done by checking the diets of more than 22,000 male physicians and then following them for 11 years. The researchers plan to do a similar study with female nurses; incidentally, women are far less likely to suffer sudden cardiac death than men.

While this and other studies suggest that fish reduces the risk of sudden cardiac death, there is far less evidence that fish protects against nonfatal heart attacks.

OVEN-FRIED FISH (Three 5 oz. servings) INGREDIENTS & MEASURES:

- 1 pound white fish, flattened
- 2 tbsp. cornmeal.
- 2 tbsp. bread crumbs.
- 1/8 tsp. dill.
- 1/4 tsp. paprika. Black pepper to taste.
- 1/4 cup skim milk. 1 tbsp. olive oil.

METHOD:

Set oven rack to middle setting. Preheat oven to 500 degrees. Cut fish into 2x2 inch pieces. Mix dry ingredients. Dip fish into skim milk, then coat with cornmeal mix. Place fish in lightly oiled rectangular pan. Pour olive oil over fish. Bake 10 minutes

NUTRITION FACTS (for 5 oz. serving):

Calories - 165; calories from fat - 54; total fat - 6 g (9% daily value); saturated fat - 2 g (8% daily value); cholesterol - 18 mg (6% daily value); sodium - 322 mg (14% daily value); total carbohydrate - 18 g (6% daily value); dietary fiber - 1.5 g (7% daily value); sugars - 0 g; protein - 11 g (20% daily value); vitamin A - 4% daily value; vitamin C - 2% daily value; vitamin C - 2% daily value; iron - 7% 0% daily value; calcium - 2% daily value; iron - 7% daily value.

Nancy Dell, MS, is a registered dietitian in private practice in Feeding Hills and the media representative for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association.

Annual Fundraiser Slated By Epilepsy **Awareness Committee**

The Western Mass. Epilepsy Awareness Committee will host its annual fundraising event to be held March 7th at Chez Josef located on Shoemaker Lane.

The evening will begin with a cocktail hour beginning at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will follow at 7:00 p.m. D.J. Rocco Productions will provide the entertainment. The committee will also be hosting its second annual "Exclusive Silent Auc-

Millicent T. Kelly RD., LD., from Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland will be honored for her long-standing commitment for keeping the Ketogenic Diet alive for the many children who

suffer with difficult-to-control seizures.
She has dedicated the last 50 years of her life perfecting a diet which has made the difference between a child having numerous seizures to be-

ing completely seizure-free.

Donations are \$25 per person. All proceeds benefit the Boston Children's Hospital—Epilepsy Unit, The Epilepsy Association of MA, and the Pediatric Neurology Dept. of Baystate Medical

PLEASE HELP US TO HELP OTHERS UNDERS-TAND EPILEPSY AND TO FIND A CURE!

For more information, call Carol Pietroniro at 786-9452, Kim Martel at 786-1169, or Sue Hearn at

"For Your Health" is one of the reasons you turn our pages...

Dietetic Programs Offered At Mercy Hospital In Springfield

Newly diagnosed diabetics will benefit from a two-part educational

series being conducted in February at Mercy Hospital.

The free series will take place on February 10th and 11th, from 2:00 to 4.00 p.m. in the Deliso Conference Center at the hospital, 299 Carew Street. Springfield. Sessions will provide an introduction to diabetes, dietary guidelines, a review of diabetes medications, and an overview of complications related to the condition.

registration is required. For more information, call Mercy Hospital's Patient Education Department, (413) 748-9024, between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m.

weekdays, or leave a message.

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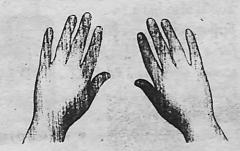
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"- of a gun"

12 "Hounds and —"
14 "...was I —— saw
Elba"

16 Toledo's waterfront

17 Hardware dealer in

19 Actor Franchot 20 Building addition

22 Signs of the future

"- does it"

24 Let go 26 "— Rambler"

27 Prado contents

28 Begin (2 words) 32 Narrow openings

35 Clumsy footwear

36 Bravo or Grande

39 Stalin's land

42 Greek island

52 Meadows

(movie title)

60 Showers

63 Style

DOWN

Frankie

8 Abhor

the Plains 10 Transgresses

18 Oven

25 Devours

28 Bed boards

high)

55 Torture rack

1 More bashful

2 Pianist/composer

4 Golfer Crenshaw

6 Wild celebration

9 Train, to an Indian on

5 Feel intuitively

7 Once named

11 Half a bray

23 The Red Planet

and every week...

13 Discolors

58 "-- it seems" 59 "- contendre"

46 Highland group 47 More transparent Lawn covering

53 French male friend

54 "The Temple of -"

61 Cluttered up state

62 Scull member's tool

40 Yoko

41 Chatter

43 Givers

45 Droop

37 Towel inscription

38 "Oh how —— to get



Upcoming Programs For Kids At Agawam **Public Library**

Valentine Crafts
Agawam and Feeding Hills school-aged children are invited to attend a Valentine Craft program on Tuesday, February 10th, from 4:00 to

The program will include creating original valentines and the opportunity to have a special valentine painted on your face.

Please call 789-1550 or visit the library to

School Vacation Feature Film The library will show the film "The Hideaways," based on the book "The Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler," on Tuesday, February 17th,

from 2:00 to 3:45 p.m.

This movie follows two kids who run away from home to a fantastic hideout, and then become involved in a mystery. The film stars Ingrid Bergman, Richard Mulligan, and Madeline Kahn, so grown-ups will enjoy it, too.

Bring something comfortable to sit on, and we'll provide a snack. This program is open to Agawam and Feeding Hills school-aged children

and their parents. Please call 789-1550 or visit the library to register.

School Vacation Craft Program

The Agawam Library will sponsor the program "Pipe Cleaners Gone Crazy" on Thursday, February 19th, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Learn to make bracelets, flowers, animals, and even "little people" - all with colorful little pipe

This program is for Agawam and Feeding Hills children ages six and up. Advance registration is

Please call 789-1550 or visit the library by Wednesday, February 18th, at the latest.
Fabric Painting (Again!) For Young Adults

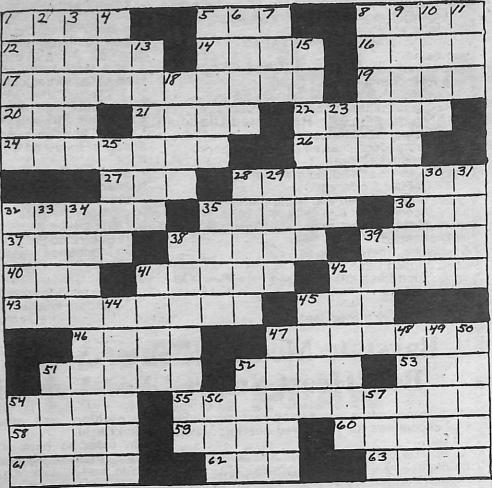
Back by popular demand, the library will offer a fabric painting program for Agawam and Feeding Hills YA's (students in Middle School or older) on

Saturday, February 21st, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Bring a pre-washed, air-dried, light-colored shirt, sweatshirt, sneakers, or hat and personalize

Please sign up by calling 789-1550 or visit the

Surprise your loved ones with a "Birthday Ad" in The AAN. They cost just \$30, so bring in yours today.

Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...



29 Carrying bag 30 Clenched hand

31 Fairway cry 32 Shoed

33 Jay of T.V. 34 German medal 35 Singe

38 "Too many — — the fire" (overextended) 3 "On --" (gambler's

39 Impulse 41 Cooperative school groups

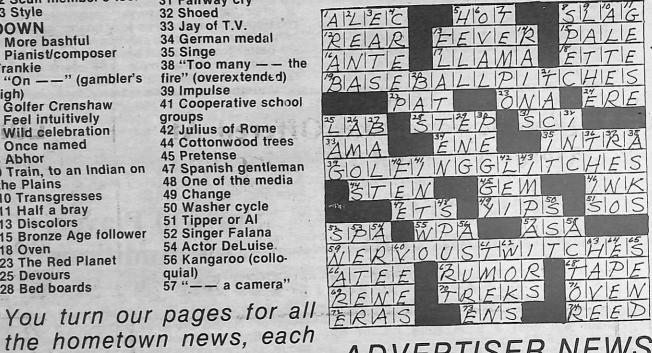
42 Julius of Rome 44 Cottonwood trees

45 Pretense 47 Spanish gentleman 48 One of the media

49 Change 50 Washer cycle

51 Tipper or Al 15 Bronze Age follower 52 Singer Falana 54 Actor DeLuise

56 Kangaroo (colloquial) 57 "—— a camera" Last Week's Solution...



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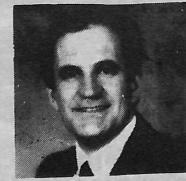
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786-0555

American Heart Association Offers The Following Recipe For "Ham And Rice Salad"

The following recipe is offered by the American Heart Association as part of an overall healthful eating plan. Total fat intake should be less than 30 percent of your total calories for a day, not for each food or recipe.

HAM AND RICE SALAD

Ham Salad 1 cup brown sugar or long-grain rice

cup low-sodium chicken broth 6 ounces lean, low-sodium ham, all visible fat removed, cut into

1/4-inch cubes

1 cup fresh or frozen no-salt-added whole kernal corn, thawed (2 medium ears or 5 to 6 ounces frozen)

1 cup frozen no-salt-added green peas thawed (about 5 ounces)

4 green onions (green and white parts), thinly sliced

1 medium red, yellow, or green bell pepper, finely chopped

4-5 radishes, finely chopped 1/4 cup minced fresh parsley 1 tablespoon fresh dill weed or 1 teaspoon dried

Dressing 1/2 cup nonfat or low-fat Italian

salad dressing ½ teaspoon Dijon mustard 1 small head lettuce, preferably red leaf Fresh mint or parsley sprigs

Cook rice according to package instructions, substituting broth for 1 cup of the liquid and omitting salt. Allow to cool.

In a large bowl, combine rice with remaining ham salad ingredients

In a small bowl, whisk together salad dressing and mustard. Stir dressing into rice mixture. Cover and refrigerate.

Serve at room temperature or chilled. Place a scoop of salad on a bed of lettuce and top with mint.

Serves 8. **Nutrient Analysis Per Serving**

8 gm Protein 10 gm Cholesterol 164 kcal Calories 30 gm Carbohydrate 359 mg Sodium 2 gm Total Fat 0 gm Polyunsatured Fat 0 gm Saturated Fat 1 gm Monounsaturated Fat

American Heart Association Low-Fat, Low-Cholesterol Cookbook, Second Edition, 9 1997. Reprinted with permission from Times Books, a division of Random House, In., New York. Visit our web site at http://www.americanheart.org

Baystate Medical Center Says You Should Be "Heart Smart" For Valentine's Day

Think twice before purchasing that mega-size box of chocolates for your loved one this Valen-

"Chocolate contains calories and no vitamins or nutrients," said Karen Kulakowski, MA, RD, a registered dietitian in Baystate Medical Center's Department of Food and Nutrition Services. "And the cocoa butter in chocolate is full of saturated fats that can lead to the development of heart disease.

February is American Heart Month and the Heart Association recommends that 30 percent or less of the calories you consume should come

In an average piece of chocolate there are approximately three to five grams of fat and 100 calories. Forty-five percent of calories from one piece of chocolate come from fat. Eating a twopound box of chocolates, which contains some 65 pieces of chocolate, would result in the consumption of approximately 260 grams of fat and 6,500

The consumption of 3,500 calories is equivalent

Presentation On "Appalachian Trail"

As part of its First Friday Series, the Agawam Cultural Council will present an evening with Henry Lafleur at the Agawam Public Library on February 6th, 7:30 p.m

Lafleur will host a slide show on an Ap-

palachian Trail Hiking Journey.

On June 29th, Lafleur strapped on a 50-pound backpack and started off from Mount Katahdin in Maine and reached Springer Mountain, Georgia, six months later on January 3rd. He had hiked a total of 2,158 miles covering 14 states.

This event is open to the public at no charge. It is funded by a grant provided from the Agawam Cultural Council, which is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

to gaining one pound of weight, noted Kulakowski.

In order to burn off calories consumed by eating a two-pound box of chocolates, a person would have to walk at a rate of four miles per hour for 13.2 hours, walk upstairs for six hours, or run at a rate of eight miles per hour for 6.4 hours, Kulakowski noted.

As an alternative to buying your loved one a box of chocolates, Kulakowski recommended purchasing candies such as jelly beans, gum drops, or hard candies. These candies have calories, but are better for your heart because they contain no

fat, she said. For example, 'jelly beans only contain approximately 60 to 70 calories.

"You don't need to completely deny yourself or your loved one from sweets," Kulakowski said, "so why not treat your Valentine with more heart healthy. healthy candies that are fat-free and lower in

calories. "And there's always that one-pound of chocolates instead of the five-pounder," said Kulakowski. "A bouquet of fresh flowers is also nice and does not contain any calories.'

Suffield Players **Slate Auditions** For Mystery Show

Suffield: Auditions for Suffield Players' presentation of "Ravenscroft" by Don Nigro, a different kind of British murder mystery of passion and intrigue, will be held Sunday and Monday, February 8th and 9th from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at historic Mapleton Hall, 1305 Mapleton Ave.

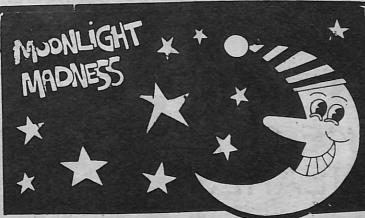
The cast will include five women, ages 17 to 50, and one man, age 30-45. Show dates are April 30th, May 1st, 2nd, 8th, 9th, 15th, and 16th, with an optional fourth weekend May 22nd and 23rd.

Scripts are available for review at Kent Library. For more information, call 860-653-8398 or 860-668-4541.

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Agawam Couple Plans To Hike The **Appalachian Trail**

The public is invited to the Agawam Library on Monday, February 9th, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. to hear Ron & Cheryl Gaudreau present plans for their 2,160-mile Appalachian Trail thru-hike.

They will bring their hiking gear, answer questions, and explain how their progress can be tracked by using the Internet. The library will be maintaining an update of their progress throughout the trip.

Please register for this program by calling 789-1550 or visiting the library at 750 Cooper Street, Agawam.

Newlyweds Ron & Cheryl Gaudreau of Agawam are leaving Springer Mountain in Georgia on February 25th and plan to arrive at Mt. Katahdin in Maine sometime in September or October. This will be their honeymoon as they hike the entire 2,160-mile Appalachian Trail.

Ron is originally from Indian Orchard, and Cheryl is a lifelong resident of Agawam. They've been hiking for many years and are undertaking this dream with the support of Cheryl's daughter, Tiffany, as well as their families and friends.

Food, shelter, clothing, sleeping bags, and supplies will be carried in their backpacks, along with a journal to record the sights and impressions of their hike. They have planned 20 "mail drops" where they will pick up packages mailed by a friend.

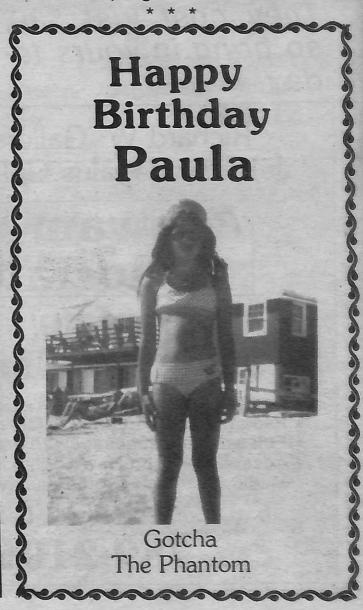
These resupply packages will contain food, toiletries, batteries, candles, and replacement gear for the changes in seasons. Cheryl and Ron will also be able to send and receive letters and e-mail at these stops wherever public Internet access is available.

The Gaudreaus will post their journal entries via a web site especially designed for Appalachian Trail thru-hikers at www.trailplace.com. It will also be accessible through a link on their homepage at www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Rapids/3876. They encourage people to follow them along their journey by sending letters and e-mail (addresses will be made available at the library's program).

Ron and Cheryl have agreed to present a followup program when they return from Maine. At the library, we plan to track their progress through Internet access, marking the miles on a poster of the Appalachian Trail and presenting update programs when possible

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the first thru-hike on the Appalachian Trail.

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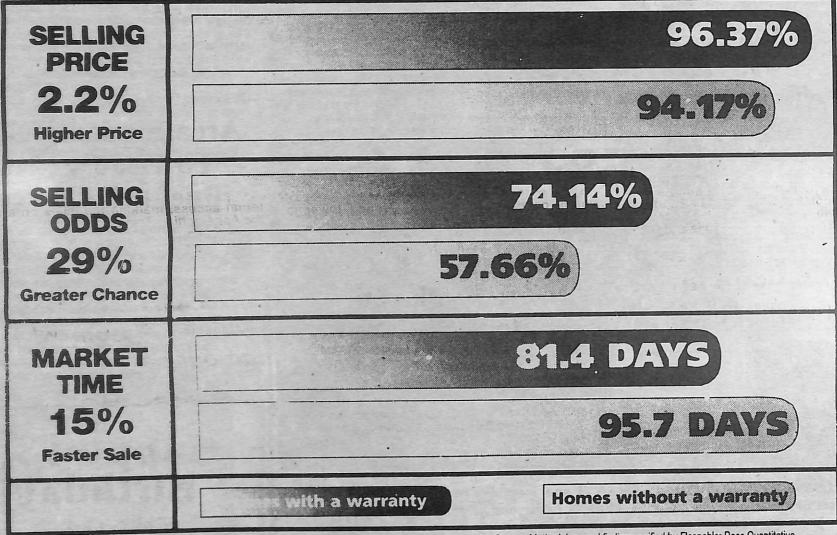
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FORMER STATE SENATOR SHANNON P. O'BRIEN was the keynote speaker at the recent AIC Model Congress. AHS Model Congress members in photo are Robert Zajac, Thomas Livingood, Patricia O'Toole, and Jennifer Niedziela.



AHS FACULTY ADVISOR JOHN FERRANTI and members of the school's 1997-1998 Model Congress team - Patricia O'Toole, Thomas Livingood, Robert Zajac, and Jennifer Niedziela.



AHS Students Participate In AIC's Model Congress

Agawam High School students participated in the 58th Model Congress at American International College in Springfield, held January 8th-

The Agawam delegation, which consisted of Justin Kratovil, Tnomas Livingood, Brooke Chichakly, and Jennifer Niedziela, drafted a resolution to set new standards for abused children to reenter their home environment. Students Robert Zajac, Lisa Niedziela, and Patricia O'Toole attended as observers. Agawam faculty advisors are John Ferranti and Abraham

Kasparian.
Students from 26 high schools across New England and New York attended the 58th Model Congress at AIC, which is the longest continuous-running event of its kind in the country. The event is designed to give high school students the opportunity to engage in the legislative process first-hand, and is geared toward stimulating an interest in the process of government in high school students. A total of \$80,000 in AIC scholarships was awarded to winning delegates as incentives to continue their education at AIC.

Delegates faced a full congressional agenda beginning Thursday, January 8th, with an emergency session in the Schwartz Campus Center Auditorium. This special session was intended to give the delegates insight into the lobbying efforts that affect policy matters in the U.S. Congress. It also prepared delegates for the Committee, House, and Senate sessions which were held Friday and Saturday. January 9th and 10th.

held Friday and Saturday, January 9th and 10th. Model Congress concluded with an awards banquet Saturday, January 10th in the Dining Commons

Area Students Named To Dean's List At Bucknell University

Bucknell University, located in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, has released the Dean's List for outstanding academic achievement during the fall semester of the 1997-98 academic year.

Among those students who have achieved this

honor are the following area students:

Eric P. Mastroianni of Agawam, son of Albert & Barbara Mastroianni, and Michelle L. Dutton of Feeding Hills, daughter of Larry & Mary Dutton.

At Bucknell University, a student must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a scale of 4.0 to receive Dean's List recognition.

Happy 13th Birthday!



Love, Mom, Dad, and Anthony



Agawam High Guidance Report

by Paul C. Cavallo Chairman

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES: Congratulations!
Ryan Progulske: Sacred Heart University.
Kelly Knowiton: Wheelock College. Michael Savioli: Endicott College.
Aimee LaBaff: Westfield State College. Kadeline Barrington: Assumption College, Sacred Heart University, University of New Hamp-

Stephanie Fleming: Assumption College.
John Cordis: Westfield State College. Melissa Boissonneault: Westfield State College, American International College.

Katherine Anderson: Allegheny College, University of Hartford, Assumption College. James Crowley: Penn State University, Universi-

ty of South Carolina.

Jeff Lyman: University of Hartford. Kelli Kunkel: University of Cincinnati. Amy Mastroianni: Wheelock College.

Geoff Krapf: Northeastern University, University of Massachusetts, University of Connecticut. Stephen Charest: Lyndon State College, Johnson State College, New England College.

Jonathan Couture: Northeastern University,

Franklin Pierce College.

Asa Allen: Westfield State College, University

of Maine at Farmington. Joella Raiche: Bay Path College. Alison Pratt: Westfield State College.

Gary Mantolesky: New England College, Springfield College.

Bill Bellico: Framingham State College, UMass

Dartmouth.

Melissa Berry: American International College, Endicott College.

Kristin Ferguson: Sacred Heart University, Northeastern University.

Jonathan Bernard: Western New England College, UMass Dartmouth, Westfield State College. Brooke Ramah: Daemen College

Courtney Locke: Suffolk University. Erin Ottomaniello: Trinity College of Vermont. Christina Januska: Sacred Heart University. Sandy Rueli: Westfield State College. Sheree Cardin: Sacred Heart University,

Westfield State College, Anna Maria College.

Ian Lane: Springfield College.

Ryan White: Northeastern University, Mary

Washington College. Richard Feeley: Assumption College, Quin-

nipiac College. Darcy Bates: West Virginia Wesleyan.
Aimee Dubay: Western New England College.
Kevin Hill: UMass Lowell.

Bryan O'Quinn: University of Rhode Island, University of Hartford, College of Charleston, University of Massachusetts, University of Con-



Christina 2-7-85

Looking back to when you were young, With all the love and all the fun. While days go on and years pass by, Remember I will always be by your side.

Now that you have reached 13 today, I hope and pray your future goes your way!!

Love always, Mom

The Agawam Advertiser News

necticut, Franklin Pierce College. Jill DeMarco: Sacred Heart University, Le Moyne College

Carolyn Clini: University of New Hampshire.

Michelle Kowalewski: University of New England, Sacred Heart University, University of Hartford.

Julie Heim: UMass Dartmouth. Jessica DeGray: Northeastern University.

Italian Women's Club Scholarship: This scholarship is available to high school seniors of Italian extraction who have been accepted at an accredited four-year college. Applications must include scholastic ranking and a guidance counselor's recommendation. Applicant must be in need of financial assistance. Deadline: April 1,

Edward P. Boland Scholarship: Open to residents of the Second Congressional District at the time of application. Awards are based on financial need, academic merit, and extracurricular activities. Awards range from \$500 to \$2,000, renewable for up to four years. Students who apply for this scholarship also have to apply to the Community Foundation of Mass. program. Deadline: March 15, 1998.

Christopher Columbus Scholarship: Open to students of Italian descent from the Springfield area. Deadline: April 1, 1998.

Mensa Education and Research Foundation Scholarship: This essay contest is open to students who will be enrolled in a degree program at an accredited institution of post-secondary education. Deadline: February 28, 1998.

Citizen's Flag Alliance Scholarship Essay Contest: Fifty-one \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded from each of the 50 states. In addition, there will be 10 scholarships awarded from the pool of state winners, with first place receiving \$15,000; second place, \$10,000; third place, \$8,000; fourth place, \$6,000; and fifth through 10th receiving \$3,000. To be eligible, a student must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. Deadline: March 1,

American Legion Auxiliary Spirit of Youth Scholarship: Candidates for this award shall be Junior members of the American Legion Auxiliary, be of good character, and have a minimum 3.0

grade point average. Deadline: March 10, 1998.

American Legion Auxiliary National President's Scholarship: Candidates for this award shall be daughters or sons of veterans who served in the Armed Forces during eligible dates for membership in the American Legion. Applicant must complete 50 hours of community service verified in writing by the local organization. Deadline: March

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Massachusetts Scholarship: Open to children, stepchildren, grandchildren, step-grandchildren, great-grandchildren, or step-great-grandchildren of veterans in Massachusetts. A Past President's Parley Nursing Scholarship will also be awarded. Deadline: April 1, 1998.

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, February 9th: Cheese-topped pizza, tossed garden salad with spinach greens and dressing, chilled pineapple tidbits, milk.

Tuesday, February 10th: Hamburg in roll, steamed seasoned rice, seasoned green and wax beans, peach crisp, milk.

Wednesday, February 11th: Taco boat with cheese topping, seasoned niblet corn, cinnamon applesauce, cherry crisp with topping, milk.

Thursday, February 12th: School-made meatball sandwich in roll, buttered macaroni and broccoli, chilled peaches or chocolate pudding with topping, milk.

Friday, February 13th: Sliced deli turkey sandwich in roll with mayonnaise, oven-roasted parsley potatoes, seasoned mixed vegetables, Valentine cake, milk.

Monday, February 16th through Friday, February 20th: Schools' winter vacation.

Cory Lavalette On Fall Dean's List At Utica College

Cory Lavalette of Agawam has been named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at Utica College of Syracuse University.

Cory is a junior, majoring in journalism, and is also the editor-in-chief of his weekly college newspaper, "The Tangerine."

Middle School PTO To Meet February 9th

The next meeting of the Agawam Middle School PTO will be held on Monday, February 9th at 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

All parents are welcome to attend. Discussion will be held on the "Blast Off" dance prepara-

Keep sending in your Campbell Soup labels and Box Tops for Education as the PTO will shortly be ordering items for use in the library.

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Honors Program At High School Subject Of Hot Debate

by Kathy Cassanelli News Editor

Battle lines were drawn in a heated debate between two School Committee members at a workshop meeting exploring the possibility of offering an honors program at Agawam High

School Committeewoman Teresa Kozloski said she won't stop running for reelection until an honors program is offered at AHS. On the opposite side of the fence, member Linda Galarneau is determined to preserve the practice of grouping students of all ability levels together for instruc-

School Superintendent Frank Ameruoso called Tuesday night's workshop "an academic discussion with all the players at the table" in an effort to discover if the needs of academically talented students are being served by the current course of studies, or if an honors program is needed.

Held in the superintendent's conference room, the meeting was convened as a workshop between a three-member sub-committee of the School Committee and school administrators, including the High School principal, deputy principal, and academic coordinators or representatives of the academic departments.

Ameruoso said the committee may find the existing system is more than adequate to meet the needs of all students. "Nothing is predisposed in our minds," Ameruoso said.

Mrs. Galarneau angrily pointed out that the School Committee unanimously adopted the policy of heterogeneous (mixed) grouping three years ago based on research and on the mandates of Education Reform (to eliminate the practice of tracking students into college prep, business, and general courses).

"Why are we even talking about this?" Mrs. Galarneau demanded. "We should be talking about ways of enhancing the program, not dismantling it. This is a bunch of baloney."

Mrs. Galarneau said an honors program would defeat the purpose of heterogeneous grouping by

taking the best students out of the mix. But, most

group members did not agree.

AHS Principal Joseph Zabielski said moving toward heterogeneous grouping was intended to attack the problem of a slow track that labeled kids as "can't do" rather than eliminate the honors courses

Consensus Favors An Honors Program... The consensus around the table favored some

type of honors program, but only if strict criteria were established for admission into the program, and that students were required to maintain high

grades in order to remain in the program.

Ameruoso said the percentage of students who would be eligible for the type of honors program

he envisioned would not be high enough to have a negative effect on heterogeneous grouping.

"The criteria I would use for eighth graders to enter an honors English program would possibly include teacher recommendation, the PSAT scores, a student's percentile on the IOWA test, and possibly a writing sample," Ameruoso said.

Under the present system, there is no formal

honors program although students can take Advanced Placement courses and earn college credit by taking a standardized test. Ninth and 10th graders can earn an honors designation in English by completing a portfolio representing three extra hours of work each week for four

In science and math, students self-select the academic level of their coursework by the classes they choose.

Zabielski said the lack of an honors program in the ninth grade is causing the school to lose some of the best and brightest students. Of the 20 eighth graders who opted to attend high school in other school districts, 16 left Agawam over the honors issue, Zabielski said.

No other school system in the area has gone with exclusive heterogeneous grouping in the ninth and 10th grades," Zabielski said. "Every other school system has kept a high ability pro-

gram. They didn't have the same interpretation of Ed Reform.

Some Confusion From College Admissions... Deputy Principal Paul Cavallo, formerly the guidance chairman, said there has been some confusion from college admissions offices in looking over transcripts from Agawam High

students.
"When we denoted a high ability course, the colleges understood the science course would include a lab and be taught at an accelerated rate. We haven't had that designation for two years and

it's misleading to the colleges.' In evaluating applications to UMass, admissions officers use a weighting system that gives more credit for courses designated as honors or advanced placement, according to Mrs. Kozloski, who continued to press for a program that would prepare the top 10 percent of students who go on to demanding colleges where they must compete with students from all over the country.

While she supports the elimination of the general track and the move to heterogeneous rouping. Mrs. Kozloski said she never dreamed it would mean the end of honors courses when she voted in favor of the policy.

"Let's not make this an emotional issue," Mrs. Kozloski said. "I don't believe by having an honors program we're fostering quasi-elitism."

School Committeewoman Rosemary Sandlin does not believe an honors program would destroy the heterogeneous system. "I have no problem with honors courses as long as we have strict academic criteria to enroll, the students maintain a level of proficiency to remain in the and parents can't use political clout to

et their children in the program. The committee will meet again on Thursday. farc 5th at 2:30 p.m. in the superintendent's conference room. The meeting will be open to the public, but there will not be an opportunity for the public to join the discussion.

NO ONE covers all the local news like us, each week

Katie LaBreck Named To Dean's List

Katie LaBreck of Agawam, a full-time student and marketing major at Quinnipiac College in Hamden, Connecticut, has been named to the college's Dean's List for the 1997 fall semester. Quinnipiac College is a coeducational, nonsec-

tarian, and independent institution founded in 1929, with more than 3,000 undergraduate and 2,000 graduate students enrolled in more than 48 programs of study in Business, Health Sciences, Law, Liberal Arts, and Mass Communications.

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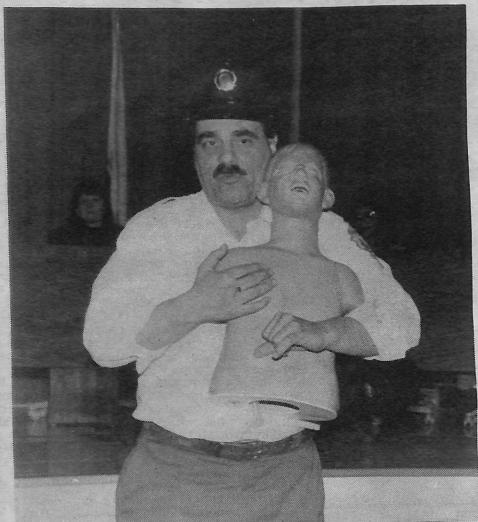
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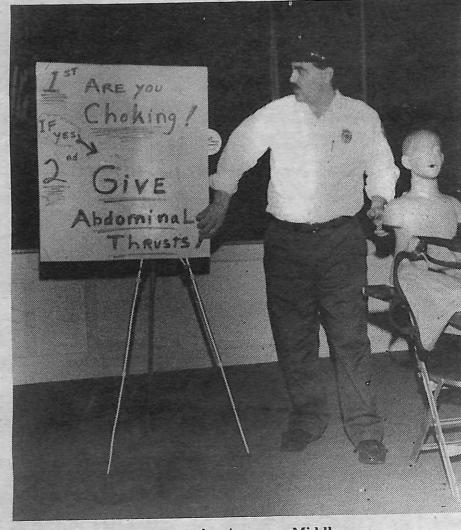
Contestants Must Be Agawam Residents

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For Information And Entry Form

Mercandate Shows Techniques To Stop Choking





FROM THE AGAWAM FIRE DEPARTMENT came Michael Mercadante to the Agawam Middle School recently to present a program on what to do if someone is choking. Mercadante said learning some simple, basic techniques could save someone's life. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Angela A. Hayward Makes Dean's List At Bay Path College

Angela April Hayward, daughter of Lawrence and Paula Hayward of Meadow Street, Agawam, attained dean's list standing for academic excellence last semester at Bay Path College. A dean's list student previously, she also belongs to the college's Maroon Key Honor Society.

A member of the senior class, she is enrolled in the Psychology/Early Childhood Education Pro-

Founded in 1897, Bay Path College is a small, private four-year women's college located in Longmeadow, with a diverse student body from throughout the U.S. and around the globe.
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associate degree programs that prepare women for professional roles in a contemporary society, Bay Path focuses on the development of leader-

ship, communication, and technological skills.

The college offers programs in business, information technology, human resource management, travel and hospitality, dispute resolution, gerontology, interior design, occupational therapy, health administration, psychology, criminal justice, legal studies, early childhood and elementary education, and liberal studies and elementary education, and liberal studies with concentrations in English, fine and performing arts, history, American studies, and women's studies.

Nicolas Devanski On Dean's List At **Bentley College**

Bentley College undergraduate Dean H. Lee Schlorff has announced the names of residents named to the Dean's List for outstanding academic achievement and the President's List for extraordinary academic achievement in the fall semester.

Bentley College is New England's largest in-stitution of higher learning specializing in professional business education.

To be named to the President's List, a full-time student must have a grade point average of 3.7 or higher with no course grade below 3.0 during the

Included on the President's List was Nicholas Devanski of Agawam, a freshman Finance major.

To be named to the Dean's List, a full-time student must have a grade point average of 3.3 or higher with no course grade below 2.0 during the

Included on the Dean's List was Feeding Hills resident Adam Kimball, also a freshman Finance major.

Our deadline Tuesday at noon!

Agawam Kindergarten Is Currently Taking **Preregistration**

Children who will be five years of age prior to October 1, 1998 are eligible for enrollment in kindergarten in Agawam for the 1998-99 school

Parents of children who will be eligible for kindergarten are requested to contact the nearest elementary school as soon as possible.

Parents are encouraged to register their children prior to the last day of kindergarten screening, May 8, 1998.

Stephen K. Bodurtha Attains Dean's List At Bowdoin College

Bowdoin College has announced that Stephen K. Bodurtha of Agawam, a member of the class of 1999, has been named to the Dean's List on the basis of his scholastic achievements during the fall semester of the 1997-98 academic year.

Students who, in a given semester, receive grades of A or B in four full-credit courses are placed on the Dean's List for that semester.

AGAWAM POLICE ASSOCIATION, INC. will be publishing and distributing a

"Domestic Violence Awareness Handbook"

It will be available free of charge!

A telemarketing campaign is currently underway to solicit your support for this worthwhile community effort.

As always, we appreciate your generous help.

If you have any questions concerning this drive, please do not hesitate to call.





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ALL WESTERN MASS. POINT GUARD Kristen Patterson goes in for a layup that brought her four points closer to the magic 1,000 mark. Patterson reached the milestone midway through the first half during a lopsided victory over Holyoke. IN PHOTO RIGHT, Patterson received flowers from Coach Lou Conte immediately after she scored off a jumper to record her 1,000th point. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

1,000 Points For Kristen Patterson Before Full Gym At Agawam High

by Dave Rollins Sports Editor

Milestones are nice. In life they might be graduation, marriage, a new job, a raise, etc. They are, for the most post, quiet celebrations, shared by family and maybe a few close friends.

In sports, milestones, for the most part, bring down the house. So it was last Friday night when the Brownies' Kristen Patterson reached another milestone in her illustrious athletic career - 1,000 points as a basketball player.

That milestone was witnessed by family and a couple hundred friends and supporters at the Kibbe Gym. They stopped the game, which was against Holyoke, presented Kristen with a big bouquet of flowers, took photos of her, cheered wildly, and heard a short speech from Coach Lou

Joining The Ranks Of The Elite

Above her head, in the rarefied air of the rafters, hung a banner. On it were six names - members of the exclusive Agawam 1,000-point club. Three of them were from the girls' program: Cindi Stone (1,327 points, 1994), Kim Trudel (1,313 points, 1994), and Lori DeSimone (1,054 points, 1989). It was quivering slightly because of the applause or was it perhaps in anticipation of Kristen's name was it perhaps in anticipation of Kristen's name joining the ranks of the elite?

There was really no drama to the end of the chase. There were no sweaty palms. It wasn't the final game of a brilliant career. There was no final second shot to grab the grand. It didn't produce an overtime win in a championship game. It was simply classic Patterson - the ultimate team lplayer working hard for another win (in her threeand-a-half years with the team, she has led them to a 64-11 record), and helping in any way she

She said as much. "Yeah, I thought about getting one thousand, but I tried not to make a big thing out of it. Mostly what I thought about was

getting it at home." Kristen came into the Holyoke game needing

only six points. She would get 12 in all. It was obvious from the get-go, her teammates were going to see, that if nothing else, she got those six. At every opportunity, they passed her the ball. Patterson, with the instincts of a point guard and always looking for the open shooter, would pass it back if there was not a shot for her. "Yeah," Conte said of their efforts, "they were very sensitive to the situation. They like here and couldn't wait to have

Kristen got her first two points with 1:10 off the

clock

Even the Holyoke fans, who were pretty sure their Purple Knights didn't have a prayer, were waiting for it to happen.

With 4:10 gone in the game, Kristen drained a deuce. Her career point total stood at 998.

Then, perhaps you could see the excitement of the impending moment getting to her. On Agawam's next possession, she launched a trey

SEE KRISTEN PATTERSON - Page 37...

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1,000 POINT SCORER Kristen Patterson is pictured with her parents, Kathy and Jack Patterson, and close family friend Bishop Joseph Maguire after Kristen reached the milestone last Friday. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



AHS ATHLETIC DIRECTOR KATHY MCSWEENEY holds a "Bleacher Creature" shirt as Superintendent of Schools Frank Amereuso (left), Principal Joseph Zabielski (back), and Springfield Bishop Joseph Maguire look on. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

KRISTEN PATTERSON - from Page 36...

from the left point. It glanced off the rim. On the possession after that, she put up another three-pointer, missing that one as well.

The Magic Moment Arrives

The magic moment arrived with precisely 7:08 to go in the first half. The senior took a dish, cut left to right into the lane, and popped a 10-footer in the paint that found nothing but net. It gave Agawam an 18-2 lead, though at that time, no one seemed to notice.

Kristen, a three-point star in basketball, soccer, and softball, would like to continue her hoop career in college and also compete in soccer. But basketball is her real love. "I'm going to miss it so much when I leave here," she said. "I wish it could go on forever."

She offered this when asked if the 1,000-point plateau might not grab the attention of a big-time college program. "Not really. I'm still known more for my playmaking than my scoring." Her point was well taken. Kristen has scored 20 or more points only 12 times in her career.

However, that situation might change. Conte has asked her to start shooting more in games. "She took it in the positive Patterson way; the way of a team player. 'I'll do whatever it takes to win,'

Lest we forget, there was a basketball game played that evening. Agawam turned the Purple Knights black and blue, 56-17. It was 30-4, Brownies, at the half. With shooting guard Barbara Maloni still out with an ankle sprain, the big guns were center Pia Bertone-Gross (18 points—season high) and forward Melissa Cote (18 points).

It was obvious Agawam was going to work the ball to the low post. That was one of the reasons Bertone-Gross and Cote were so effective. Conte admitted it was a planned offense. "After seeing what happened in the Minnechaug loss, we have to work at getting the ball into our big people."

to work at getting the ball into our big people."
BROWNIE STATS VS HOLYOKE: BERTONE-GROSS: 18 points (7-9) fgs, 4-4 fts, 4 rebs (2 off, 2 def), 1 steal; PATTERSON - 12 points (6-10) fgs, 3 steals, 5 rebs (2 off); COTE - 12 points (6-9), 9 rebs, 1 steal; SHANNON - 4 points (2-10) fgs, 1 steal; BUCALO - 4 points (2-5) fgs, 0-1 fts, 1 off reb, 1 def reb; TIERNEY - 2 points (1-4) fgs, 1 off reb, 2 def rebs; BENTON - 2 points (1-2) fgs, 2 def rebs; HADDEN - 2 points (1-4), 8 rebounds (1 off), 1 steal.
AGAWAM TEAM STATS: FGS - 26-46 (56 per-

cent); FTS - 4-5 (80 percent); REBOUNDS - 36 (6 TURNOVERS - 13; POINTS OFF TURNOVERS - 6. HOLYOKE TEAM STATS: FGS - 8-44, including a 3 (18 percent); FTS 0-4; REBOUNDS - 12 (3 off); TURNOVERS - 10; POINTS OFF TURNOVERS - 2.

Ag. Little League To Hold Sign-Ups

The Agawam Little League will hold sign-ups for the spring/summer season on Saturday. February 7th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Captain Charles Leonard House.

For more information, call Peter Donah at

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SARAT FORD

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AHS Senior Jody Bulat Leading Late Charge In B. Division Skiing

by Dave Rollins **Sports Editor**

Jody Bulat is a senior at Agawam High School, She is also a member of the varsity girls' ski team and is one of the top schoolgirl skiers in Western Mass. Recently, Jody took some time out to talk about herself, skiing, and her time at AHS.

Jody turned 18 in November. She has been at

the High School for four years. She is taking a general curriculum, which includes anatomy and physiology, psychology, business math and computer skills. Her favorite course is psychology. Her top teacher is Edward Merrill.

Jody has plans to become a massage therapist.
Springfield Technical Community College is opening up a major in that area next fall. The Still Point School of Massage in Hartford also offers massage therapy. She hopes to make a decision on one of them before about a reductor. on one of them before she graduates.

Skiing is Jody's only sport this year, though she says she might try out for the track team come spring. "The shot put interests me," she said. In the past, she played field hockey and softball as a freshman and sophomore.

Skiing, of course, is her love. This is her fourth year with the varsity. She competes in both slalom and giant slalom, but feels GS is her stronger event.

Top Point-Getter In B Division Her most memorable moments in sports are

racing varsity in her freshman year, her trips to the States as a freshman, sophomore, and junior, and racing out of the first and second spots for most of her career. At this point, Jody is the top point-getter in the B Division.

She feels positive about this season as far as her performances have gone. "I've finished in the top five every race this year." As for the team, she has this take: "We have a very good outlook. I think we can take the title. Right now, we're tied with Westfield for first place." with Westfield for first place."

Her favorite grub is the baked ziti from E.B's Restaurant.

Hunter green is her top hue. She likes Jeep Wranglers.

Olympic skier Tommy Moe is her top jock. The Philadelphia Flyers head the list as far as favorite teams go.

When Jody kicks back and relaxes, she likes to

do it at her girlfriend's house.

Her tastes in clothes run to the casual - jeans, sweaters, shirts. She likes to purchase them at Abercrombie & Fitch.

Rhythm and blues, along with rap, top her tune list. She caters to such groups as Usher, Mase, and Puff Daddy

'ER'' tops the tube for her.

A movie called "Soul Food" is her favorite flick. Kathleen is her mom's name. Ron is her dad.

AHS Staggers Out Of Amherst With 55-50 Hoop Win

by Dave Rollins Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' basketball team traveled to Amherst Regional on Monday night. The Hurricanes are a good team. Agawam beat them 55-50. There is a good chance that after the Holyoke game, they might have been a bit off-track. "It was a little too close for comfort. We weren't ready," senior point guard Kristen Patter-

Amherst employed a one-two triangle against the Agawam offense; playing man on Patterson and Maloni and zoning up against the others. It was semi-effective. Patterson managed only five points. Maloni, back after missing three games with an ankle sprain, poured in 20. Forward Melissa Cote contributed 11 while center Pia Bertone-Gross chipped in with 10. The Brownies went to 13-1 after the non-league game was over.

Amherst slipped to 10-4. BROWNIE NOTES: After Patterson's milestone of 1,000 points last Friday, all eyes are now focused on Barb Maloni. Her 20-point performance against Amherst means she needs just 69 points to join the 1,000-point club. She has scored 208 points in 11 games for an 18.9 average to hike her career total to 931.

At this writing, they have five regular season games left. Longmeadow will be in town Friday night. If she maintains her average, Maloni will get her grand sometime on the evening of February 17th, at Northampton. But remember, she is capable of 30-point-plus games, so it could happen sooner.



JODY BULAT

She has an older brother, Mike, who graduated from AHS in 1990. Mike is also a good skier. "Back then, I couldn't beat him, but I can now," Jody laughed.

She looks up to Mike, though, along with her parents. She also has another hero, U.S. Olympian

When her days at AHS are done, Jody says she would like to be remembered as a person who gave back to the school because it gave her so many opportunities.

Her coach, Jim Graveline, now in his eighth season, has this to say about his captain: "Jody has been with us a long time. She came aboard as a strong skier and by fine-tuning her skills, has only gotten stronger. She is very dedicated to the sport. She keeps the team together. The others watch Jody and become better skiers because of

AHS & Westfield Girls Going To The Wire On B Division Slopes

by Dave Rollins **Sports Editor**

The B Division dogfight between Agawam High and Westfield High continues in girls' skiing.

On Tuesday afternoon at Berkshire East, the two teams came in tied. When the day was over, the Bombers, thanks to their combined score, jumped back into the B Division lead by a point

over the Brownies.

Agawam Coach Jim Graveline took it with a grain of salt. "That's the way it's been all season long. But we are not out of it yet," he smiled.
In the individual competition, which was the

slalom on this day, Agawam's number one skier, Jody Bulat, skied the hill in 41.90, giving her a third overall and a first on the team. The slalom is not Jody's best discipline. The giant slalom better

Camilla Ringvold, the number two Brownie, skied well as usual, timing out at 45.49. It placed her eighth overall in the meet and second on the

Jess Ferris skies at number three for the Brownies. She skied right on the edge but hooked a gate and didn't finish. "I'll never have any com-

plaints about a kid who gives it everything. Jess did, but she just got unlucky," Graveline said.

Laura Charest went at number four. Her time of

53.04 was fifth best on the team.

Angela Tassinari, fifth out of the gate, hooked a

flag and didn't finish. Brownie number six, Jen Thibodeau, skied in a

time of 51.57, which gave her a fourth place finish on the team. Michelle Clauson had a good day out of the seventh gate. She took a third on the team with a

time of 51.45. The eighth skier, Aimee Devall, had a 54.51 to finish the sixth fastest on the team.

The JV's, skiing among themselves, saw number one Kerry St. Laurent clock a 31.98 to grab first fastest. Caroline Sherpa, the number two skier, finished fourth at 36.09. The third skier, Leana Frink, took third at 34.46. And Jen Petroniro, at number four, did well; her 34.45 gave

the second fastest for the day. "The course, despite the warm weather, held up well. The kids pushed hard. They know they are in a dogfight. It's tough to lose your third and fifth starters. We'll live with it," Graveline said.

On Thursday (at presstime), they have their final regular season meet. This time, the format will be the giant slalom, where the Brownies are strong up and down the lineup. The coach feels they can at least tie for the Division crown with a win.

Agawam High School Cheerleaders Hosting Competition On Valentine's Day

The Agawam varsity cheerleaders will be hostng a varsity and junior varsity cheerleading competition on Saturday, February 14th, starting

Admission is \$5 for adults, and \$3 for students

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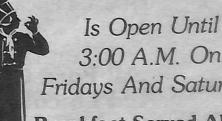
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Kevin Smith Named New Diving Coach For AHS Swimming Teams

by Dave Rollins Sports Editor

It is difficult to have a good interscholastic swimming team (girls' or boys') in these parts without divers. The lack of one, especially if the opponent brings bodies to the board, means you are down by a bunch of unanswered points halfway through the meet.

Agawam High, up to a few weeks ago, hadsome kids who wanted to dive, but no one to lead the way. Now they do. He is 30-year-old Kevin Smith. If the name sounds familiar, it should. Kevin is the son of former long-time Brownie swim Coach Dave Smith.

First Year As Coach

This is Kevin's first year as coach of a varsity diving squad. But it is not his first experience with the sport of diving. He graduated from East Longmeadow High School in 1985. With the Spartans, he was a four-year member of one of the most powerful diving teams in Western Mass. at

"In my freshman year, we finished one, two, three, and six, which was me, in Western Mass." Kevin smiled. He improved to fourth in his sophomore and junior seasons and second as a senior. He was coached and learned much from one of the top dive instructors at that time, Janet

Kevin went to Franklin Pierce College in New Hampshire after EL. He didn't dive in college, opting for soccer, a sport he also played in high school. He now works in human services as the manager of a residential group home in East Longmeadow.

Diving, however, was always something that fascinated him. "I grew up with the sport. There was always a pool around, with a board," he noted. "My dad was the director of a big recreational pool in Hampden. I was always trying to do flips and jackknives and things like that

That's why, as a freshman, he decided to take diving as part of his East Longmeadow physical education curriculum. "I showed Coach Kerr what I could do and she asked me to join the diving

He applied for the Agawam job because the posting said they wanted someone with experience. "It showed me they had a need; that they were serious about putting a good dive team in the water," Kevin said.

Kevin got the job and, in the process, got three kids interested in diving - freshman Nate Adamski, sophomore Lauren Kunkler, and senior Kelly Robinson. "They've all done very well in competition so far. The one thing that really impresses me about them is that they listen, which makes them very coachable," Kevin noted.

Raw Talent

Adamski, just a freshman, has raw talent, according to Smith. "I could see that in his first practice sessions," he said. "Lauren is determined and courageous. Her attitude is to always try to nail the dive," the coach noted. "Kelly, of the three, has the finesse. She is very aware of style and technique, maybe because she's a senior.

Daggett Gymnasts Compete In Florida

Eleven girls from the Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics squad escaped last week's ice storm as they were southbound to Boca Raton, Florida, to compete in the American Twisters Invitational held at Florida Atlantic University

In the level 8 optional competition, Andrea Babbin of Agawam won Gold on the vault with a 9.00 and her all-around of 34.475 captured fifth place. Devon Ehret of Chicopee scored 33.60 (eighth place), and Paula Ballentine of Shelbourne Falls

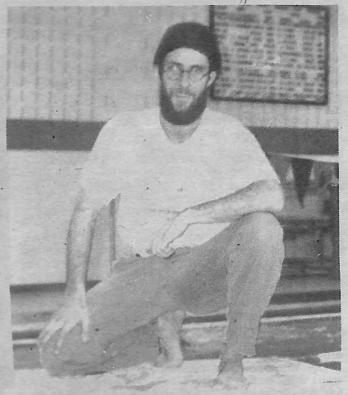
twisted her way to a 31.60. Level 9 gymnast Sarah Liebowitz of Avon, CT, had a solid meet that included a third-place finish on uneven bars (8.80) and a Silver Medal allaround score of 34.475.

Brionne Lancour of Feeding Hills took the Gold on vault (8.65) and finished eighth all-around with a 33.15. Lissa Bramley of South Windsor (32.75) and Noelle Marquez of Springfield (31.225) also had great meets.

In the level 10 Junior A division, Lauren Powell of Agawam finished 10th all-around with a 33.65, while Jamie Scott-Smith of Southwick took third place on bars with a 8.625.

In the level 10 Junior B class, Kadee Bramley came in sixth place with a 33.25 all-around, and West Springfield's Michelle Germano finished with a 33.10 all-around.

All the local news with us, each week



KEVIN SMITH is the new diving coach for Agawam High School swimming. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

The coach observed that all of them feed off each other during practice and in meets.

Jumping off a springy board, doing a routine, and hitting the water from a height can be intimidating. "If you go up afraid that you will crash, you probably will. If you go up with a positive attidue, positive things will happen," he said.

kevin believes there is a big difference between swimming and diving. "In the water, strength counts for a lot. The stronger you get, the better your times become," he noted. "As far as diving your times become," he noted. and five nor goes, it's about 95 percent mental and five percent physical."

Agawam Hockey Vs. Comp...

Brownies Icemen Crush Comp, 5-0; Closing On Tourney Berth

by Dave Rollins Sports Editor

Last Saturday evening after a week-long layoff, the Agawam High School hockey team, raring to get back in action, came out and bageled Chicopee Comp, 5-0, at the West Springfield Olympia. "Sure they were intense," Assistant Coach John Cirelli noted. "A week without action is a long time for these kids."

The Brownies started a first line of Tony Kosinski. Grag Jubinyilla and Robert Parker.

sinski, Greg Jubinville, and Robert Parker. Veterans Austin Kimball and Adam Sprague were on defense. The Colts went on the attack for a few moments to open the first period. Some good back-checking by Kimball kept them off balance and the Brownies quickly regained control of the

With two minutes gone, the Brownies began to get the kinks out of their offense. Freshman Brian Gilhooly and sophomore Dave Gusek led a charge up ice. Brian Pagella and big senior Rich Feeley were dishing out the body with abandon. Three minutes and some change had vanished from the clock when Agawam had its first chance. Pagella had a back-hander from the right crease. His hard, backhand flip shot for a score was robbed by Colt goalie Mark Donnelly on a glove save.

The Brownies were spending a lot of time in the Comp zone. When the Colts were able to bring the puck out, the Brownie defense poke-checked it off their sticks and dumped it back in. The Agawam aggressiveness paid off with 6:58 gone as Kimball launched from the right side 15 feet out for a score. Feeley got the assist. The Brownies were

Agawam was on a powerplay a half minute later. Despite several rushes by Parker, Kosinski, and Jubinville, Comp managed to kill the penalty. The Colts came back. Again, the Agawam "D" led by Sprague, Pagella, and Kimball shut them down.

SEE AHS HOCKEY - Page 40...



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AHS HOCKEY - from Page 39...

With 3:58 left, the Brownies were in another powerplay situation. Comp sucked it up and caught the Agawam defenders too far up ice. Forward Mike Abbott walked in on netminder Chris Hearn and snapped one off from the right crease. Hearn was up to the challenge with a brilliant pad

As often happens in hockey, Hearn's display prompted the Agawam offense to come up with one of its own. Kimball took a feed from highscoring Jay Malanson at the right point. Austin, who has a bodacious slap shot, displayed it to the screaming faithful and grumbling Colt fans with a 30-foot screamer that put the Brownies up, 2-0, with 2:45 left. The powerplay effort was Kimball's

with 2:45 left. The powerplay effort was Kimball's second score of the game.

The half ended with Agawam enjoying that 2-0 lead. In the first period, the Brownies had six on net. Comp could manage only two.

Agawam commanded Comp's attention with 17 seconds gone in the second period. Feeley slapped a 20-footer from the left wing to give his club a 3-0 lead. Malanson and Sprague assisted.

3-0 lead. Malanson and Sprague assisted.

Brownies Were Well-Balanced... It was obvious - the Brownies were wellbalanced both offensively and defensively on this night. One defensive gem in particular stood out.
With 3:05 gone, the Colts had a scoring oppor-

tunity 20 feet out and point blank in front of the Agawam net. Gusek slid in front of the hard skillfully deflected it out of harm's way.

Another defensive high point happened with seven minutes to go. Comp's Mike Viens had a breakaway. Kimball turned on his afterburners, caught up with the Colt (who had a score on his mind), and poke-checked the puck off his stick.

"Austin is an outstanding player. He's also smart. Comp was pretty chippy on him tonight, but he ignored them and went about his business," Cirelli said.

Comp had a chance for a score with 4:37 left as it pressed in on the Agawam net in a mob-type attempt to bull the puck past Hearn. Hearn, along with his defense, would have none of it.

With 2:40 left, Viens was on the move again on a semi-breakaway down the left wing. Sprague, defending that side, gave no ground, riding the Colt forward behind the Brownie net.

The second period ended with Agawam enjoying a 3-0 lead. They came up with 13 shots on the Comp goal. The Colts, again, came up with only

Up to the start of the third period, Agawam had been penalty-free. That all ended with 55 seconds gone. The Brownie infraction saw Gusek, Andy Radwanski, Sprague, and Gilhooly come on to kill the penalty, which they did with surgical preci-

Agawam came up with another score 4:42 into the third. It came on a powerplay as Kosinski stuck the puck in from 10 feet out on the right side. Parker and Jubinville recorded the assists. "That was a beautiful score. Parker really set it all

up," Cirelli smiled.

The 4-0 Agawam margin seemed to take some trot out of the Colts. The Brownies began to tee off. Only some great saves by Donnelly kept things from getting downright ugly. Agawam's final score came with 1:22 left in the game. Andy Radwanski took a pass dead-on in front and flipped it home. Kimball and Gusek were credited with an assist apiece.

Agawam' six third period shots on goal gave them 25 for the game. Chicopee Comp had only three and seven in the entire contest. Agawam's record went to 8-6. Comp fell to 11-2-2 in the independent game.

It was a good way to get back to the battle for the Brownies. "We've got some tough league games coming up. This win will put us in a good frame of mind for them," Cirelli noted.

best local news... took the first period, 4-2 on a takedown and a reversal. Fentress tied it up, 6-6 in Mr. SERVICE In-Home Repairs On **All Major Appliances** Senior Citizen Discount **REFRIGERATORS • FREEZERS • MICROWAVE OVENS** WASHERS • DRYERS • DISHWASHERS • RANGES **DISPOSALS** • AIR CONDITIONERS 789-1883 Same Day Same Day Service Service

Rebuilding? AHS Wrestlers Go To 15-1 After Quad-Meet Sweep

by Dave Rollins Sports Editor

About this time every year, the Agawam High wrestling team gets involved with some of the best squads in the state for a little high level competition. This year, they held it here last Saturday at Kibbe gym. Westfield, plus perennial powers Bridgewater-Raynham and Brockton, came call-

This is supposed to be a rebuilding year, according to observers of Agawam wrestling. Really?

Output

Description wrestling under rafters laden by The Brownies, wrestling under rafters laden by their championship banners, never gave a hint that they were rebuilding anything (only adding to their reputations).

Westfield came in late. (Things were supposed to start at 10:00 a.m.) They wanted to wrestle Agawam first. AHS Coach Phil Tomkiel, now in his 24th season, really didn't want it to go that way. As the host coach, he can choose the order of his victims. The Bombers are having a down season. The coach wanted to start off with the two Eastern Mass. powers (for strategic reasons) and have Westfield for dessert. He had a legitimate argument, but was overruled.

So, the Brownies passed up the entree and went right to the dessert tray. What they got was something akin to a souffle gone flat. They at up the Bombers, 70-12 on nine pins, one decision, and a forfeit.

Their two losses came in the 130's, where Westfield's Rafael Cruz pinned Ryan Gamache. Gamache was filling in for Chris Wayte, who was in New York attending his father's funeral. They also lost in the heavies.

112's The Best Of The Meet

The best match of the meet was in the 112's. There, Kevin Suffriti beat perhaps Westfield's best wrestler (pound-for-pound), Matt Bard, in an 8-0 decision.

Then it was time for the appetizer - Bridgewater-Raynham, "They are a tough team," Tomkiel said. Coming in, they'd lost only to Division II powerhouse Foxboro and Division III State Champs Franklin. But they weren't tough enough. Agawam won, 44-24.

One of the better matches was in the 112's, which is dominated by Agawam senior captain Kevin McKay. He wrestled B-R's sophomore star Dana Grennow and came away with a 7-1 deci-

The 215's saw a classic battle. Agawam's Darrell Malachowski went up against Josh Poh, who is ranked fourth in the state at 189. He was wrestling up because of a strategy move. Malachowski, who is ranked number one in Massachusetts at 215, wasn't impressed by either the move or Poh's credentials. The big redhead led 2-0 after the first period. He was up 4-2 after two. Darrell enjoyed a 6-3 lead with one minute left in the third. He wasn't content with a decision, pinning Poh with 30 seconds left.

Time For The Entree Then, it was time for the entree - Brockton. Tomkiel would say later that Brockton probably had the best wrestlers in the tournament. (If that was true, then he simply outcoached the team

from south of Boston). Their 103 guy, Deshawn Fentress, was ranked number Agawam's Dave Moore,

one in the state. who is slowly climbing the ladder to more lofty heights, faced off against him. Moore



RYAN GREALIS wrestled a great match igainst Brockton in the quad-meet at Agawam High School last Saturday. Advertiser News photo by tive Rollins

the second with a reversal and two escapes. Moore, who is relentless, won it in the third, 9-6, by virtue of an escape and a takedown

Rob Creanza replaced Brian Chechile in the 125's and went on to grab his second varsity win in a 16-10 decision.

The 130's saw junior Ryan Gamache come through with his first win and first pin of his varsi-

Perhaps the best match in the meet for the Brownies came in the 135's. Ryan Grealis won, 11-0 on a decision. It was a pitched battle with the score changing throughout by virtue of some superb moves (offensive and defensive) on the part of both wrestlers. Ryan finally prevailed with a second left and the score knotted at 10.

Agawam also prevailed, 49-17, to sweep the

meet.
"After our match at Central (a recent 37-25
Agawam win), I wasn't too pleased. I felt they
were physically tougher. We won it because we were more talented. But you can't always count

on talent. I was really happy with us today. We were ready," Tomkiel smiled.

The three wins saw Agawam's record rise to 15-1 overall and 7-1 in Division I. At this writing, the Brownies are looking forward to a big one
Wednesday evening over at West Springfield.
BROWNIE WRESTLING NOTE: Coach Tomkiel

will be inducted into the New England Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame. He'll receive the honor at ceremonies on the evening of March 7th at the New England Tournament in Lowell.



Strong First Half Vaults Falcons Over AHS Boys Hoop, 63-53

by Dave Rollins Sports Editor

On Tuesday night, Minnechaug Regional came calling for a boys' basketball game against Agawam High. Both programs were floundering. The Brownies, a playoff team a year ago, were 3-10. The Falcons were 2-10 and on a five-game

It seemed like an even match-up and a chance for someone to get well. The Falcons took the cure, winning 63-53.

It was obvious from the get-go that it was going to be a track meet disguised as a basketball game. Agawam ran its press and man-to-man defenses. The Falcons did likewise. It is not the type of game the Brownies particularly enjoy. But they had to go with the flow.

For the Falcons, that flow went down low. There, in the deep paint, forward Aaron Dillard managed 17 points and forward Brandon Mahoney chipped in with 12. Many of their hoops came off easy bunnies set up by some good offen-

sive board work.

With 6:37 gone, the score was tied at 16. The pace was still hectic and the Brownies couldn't seem to slow it down. At the 8:54 mark, a threepointer put the Falcons up, 19-16. No one knew it at the time, but the Brownies would never catch

With 8:12 to go, Agawam was shooting 6-11 from the floor. Minnechaug was 9-14.

With 5:10 to go, the Falcons had opened up a 30-19 lead. The Brownies, not boxing out, were starting to pay the price. With 2:55 to go, Minnechaug had seven offensive boards and 10 points resulting from them. Agawam, on the other hand, could manage only one. At 1:59, the Falcons, up 34-21, threatened to blow it wide open. It was time for someone on the home team

That homeboy was senior guard Jay Hanscom. He scored four straight points on a jumper and a coast-to-coast steal to narrow the margin to 36-27,

where it stood at the half.

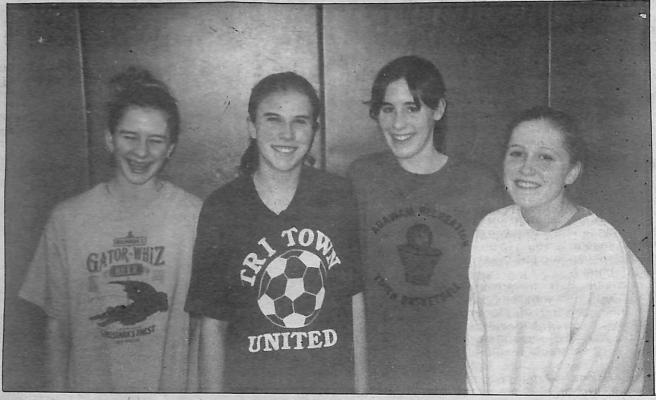
The Brownies' problem throughout the first 16 was on the boards where they were outrebounded, 20-9. Eleven of the Falcon rebounds were of the offensive variety. Agawam went 9-16 (56 percent) from the field, while Minnechaug came in at 16-39 (41 percent) in the first half.

Minnechaug had a surprise for the Brownies to start the second half — a 2-1-2 zone. Agawam stuck to its trusty man-to-man. They also pressed whenever possible. At halftime, Coach Gary Grumoli must have explained to them that their boardwork needed some work. Junior Dave Strole got the message.

With 5:35 gone, the 6'5" center had seven rebounds (three offensive) and six of his game-high 22 points. The score was 41-35, Falcons. His deuce at 9:44 made it 42-37.

The big guy was sparking a Brownie comeback. Bryan O'Quinn also got the message. The senior captain drove the lane for two and got fouled at 9:03. He hit the free throw and just like that, Agawam trailed by two, 42-40. One of the reasons Agawam was able to scramble back had to do with good ball movement. Crisp passes by O'Quinn, Hanscom, and Jeff Lyman were setting up the shots.

SEE BOYS' HOOP - Page 43...



FOUR REASONS WHY the Agawam High freshman girls' basketball team is enjoying a strong winter include, from left - Kara Barnes, Lisa Bienia, Jenn Bishop, and Vanessa Plan-ZO. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

Freshman Girls' Hoop At Agawam High **Enjoying Strong Winter Season**

by Dave Rollins **Sports Editor**

Freshmen don't usually get much ink in the athletic scheme of things. But let it be known that the Agawam High girls' frosh basketball team is doing quite well. Currently, they are 7-2 on the year. They've had two big wins over Longmeadow and Cathedral. Their only loss to date has been against Minnechaug Regional. They meet the Falcons again in the final game of the year later

They also have a big one coming up Tuesday, Feburary 10th against West Springfield. "This will be the first time an Agawam freshman team has ever played West Side, because they've never had freshman basketball before," Coach Lynda Kunasek noted.

The coach singled out some players who have

been very tough this season. Jen Bishop is 5'8" tall and a strong center. "Jen is gaining more confidence with each game. And she is very impressive on defense.

Kara Barnes is a forward and a point guard. "She's our leading scorer and a great passer who loves the uptempo game," Kunasek smiled.
Lisa Bienia is her power forward who, accor-

ding to the coach, has a good baseline jumper and is improving on defense.

Vanessa Planzo is usually the point guard. "Vanessa is a good pace-setter and passer who knows how to run an offense," the coach noted.

She feels the strength of all her kids is their ability to put the ball in the hole. "They're all dangerous out there," she smiled.

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Riverside Speedway Looks To Opener

50th Anniversary Season Kicks Off March 28th!

Season passes for Riverside Park Speedway's 50th season of racing are still available. Season Grandstand Passes are available for \$225 each, and a limited number of Reserved Seating Season Passes are available for \$250 each. All Season Passes include a parking pass and a season pass to Riverside Park Amusement Park.

to Riverside Park Amusement Park.
"We want to encourage fans to get their tickets early so they won't miss any of the excitement in 1998," says Joe Lewandoski, Riverside Park Speedway's Director of Auto Racing. "There are so many benefits to having Season Passes. The racing season is going to be great, and the amusement park is going to be just incredible this year,"

he continued.

Riverside Park Speedway opens its season March 28th-29th with the Spring Classic. Billed as the first weekend of stock car racing in New England, the weekend will be highlighted by the PEPSI 200, the season-opening race for the NASCAR Featherlite Modified Tour.

Other 1998 Schedule highlights include the NASCAR Busch North Series race on May 2nd, the Bud Riverside 500 team race on May 23rd, and the Bud Triple Crown Series taking place

throughout the season.

New this season at Riverside Park Speedway will be a Junior Season Pass for kids ages 12 to 16. Junior Season Passes are \$75 with the purchase of an adult Season Pass. Children's Season Passes will also be available for children 11 and under, and are \$50 with the purchase of an adult Season Pass.

"We pride ourselves on quality family entertainment," says Lewandoski, "and with the amusement park right there, it's a 'can't miss' deal for

everybody.'

Season Pit Passes are now available for \$325 each. Drivers and owners will be able to purchase their Season Pit Passes at the general meeting to be held on Wednesday, February 25th, at 7:30 p.m. at The Oaks banquet facility in Agawam. All drivers and owners are encouraged to attend and purchase their passes at this meeting. NASCAR Licenses and Driver and Owner Club Passes will also be available at the February 25th meeting.

Season Passes can be purchased through the Speedway Office. Checks, money orders, and most major credit cards are accepted. For more information or to order 1998 Season Passes, call the Riverside Speedway Office at (413) 786-9300.

ext. 3264.



TAFKWONDO MASTER MIKE WOLLMERSHAUSER (right) and his son, second degree black belt Mike Wollmershauser, pose with new second degree black belt Neil Butler.

Neil Butler Promoted To 2nd Degree Black Belt In TaeKwonDo At Local School

All of the staff at Fitness First wish to congratulate Neil Butler, one of the assistant instructors at The Olympic TaeKwonDo School of Champions, for his outstanding promotion to second-degree black belt.

Neil, 16, and all of the students promoted to black belt at The Olympic TaeKwonDo School of Champions (located at Fitness First under Master Mike Wollmershauser), are registered and recognized by the official Korean organization that promotes the World TaeKwonDo Federation for the pursuit of the Olympic way.

Neil has been studying TaeKwonDo for the last nine years with his sister, Tracy (also a black bet in TaeKwonDo). Their hopes were not just to be a black belt, but to live a way of life in honesty, helpfulness, and be family-oriented.

Neil, like Jonathan Wollmershauser (who also earned a second-degree), are now looking at their teacher's second martial art — the art of Hapkido. Their teacher, Grandmaster Mike Wollmershauser, eighth-degree in Hapkido, is the third highest ranked in Hapkido in the world and holds a fifth-degree in TaeKwonDo.

New classes for The Olympic TaeKwonDo of Champions began on February 4th. Classes are held in TaeKwonDo and Hapkido on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at 5:00 p.m. (kids' classes), and Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 8:00

p.m.(adult classes).

All are welcome to one free class to see how the benefits improve your way of living. You can call Fitness First at 786-1460 or Master Mike at 786-8290.

Riverside Racing Show To Be On WHYN-560

Riverside Park Speedway and WPOP Sports Radio 1410 have announced that "The Speedway Line Report," hosted by Riverside Park Speedway announcer Gary Danko, will be simulcast on WPOP AM 1410 in Hartford, CT, and WHYN AM 560 in Springfield, MA. "The Speedway Line Report" was originally to be broadcast exclusively on WHYN AM 560.

The weekly one-hour radio series will focus on racing events all around New England as well as NASCAR's top divisions. Joe Lewandoski, Riverside Park Speedway's Director of Auto Racing, is thrilled about the new partnership with WPOP.

"WPOP Sports Radio is one of the top sports talk radio stations in all of New England, and for them to see the value in our show is very exciting," says Lewandoski.

A total of 25 episodes will be produced. The show will take to the airwaves for the first time on Monday, March 23rd, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The show will continue to be broadcast weekly from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. and will be re-broadcast each Saturday morning on WPOP AM 1410.

Saturday morning on WPOP AM 1410.
"There was definitely a niche for NASCAR racing and regional racing updates, and we found a

show that fit," says Steve Coates, Programming Director for WPOP Sports Radio, "It's a great partnership and we're really excited about it," he continued.

Fans from the Hartford and Springfield areas will have the opportunity to participate in the show. Danko will field calls about the show's guests or other events in NASCAR racing. The show will be produced at WHYN Radio in Springfield.

For more information, contact Jeremy Davidson at (413) 786-9300, ext. 3341.

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AHS Girls Nip Cathedral, 86-84 In Swim Thriller

by Dave Rollins Sports Editor

The Brownie girls' and boys' swim teams took on Cathedral Tuesday afternoon. The girls won a close contest, 86-84, for their fifth win of the season against seven losses. The boys fell 77-53; their record now stands at 2-9.

The girls' battle wasn't decided until the final ace. But how they got there was exciting as well. "Yeah, we had a good one going all afternoon long," girls' Coach Kim Scofield smiled.

Shaunessy Egan, Shannon Costa, Alicyn Siano, and Brenna McGinn finished second in the medley relay at 2.20.74. The team of Kate Gallagher, Danielle DeForge, Darcy Bates, and Missy Sparveri took a fourth.

Costa was first in the 200 free at 2.15.13. Kelly Robinson was third with a 2.38.93. Lisa Niedziela was fifth. "That was a good swim for Lisa," the coach commented.

The 200 IM saw DeForge take a third with a time of 3.03.43. Darcy Bates was fourth (3.07.00). Sparveri took fifth.

The exciting 50 free had McGinn finishing second with a 30.05. Lauren Kunkler managed a sixth with a 34.12.

One thing missing from this meet (held at Springfield's Kiley Middle School) was the lack of starting blocks and a busted diving board. "I'm not sure if those things made all that much difference." Scofield noted. "But we haven't encountered a meet with no blocks before.

Because of the board, no diving was held. Egan took the fly with a 1.16.27. She is a fly specialist and always finishes well in that event. Siano was second with a 1.22.39. Kate Gallagher was also entered. It was her first time this year in the event. She took a fifth in 1.36.98.

Agawam finished one and two in the 100 free. Sparveri took the top spot with a 1.10.20. Niedziela was second at 1.17.21. Bates, swimming a gutsy race, took a sixth with a 1.18.64.

The most grueling of races is the 500 free. Costa was first with a 5.59.29. Alicyn Siano, swimming her best 500 of the season, managed a third in a time of 7.00.95.

McGinn, Robinson, Siano, and Costa took a first in the 200 relay with a time of 2.02.95. Niedziela, Kunkler, Bates, and Sarah Bates were third, coming in at 2.15.50. After the race, Agawam led, 63-61. Things were shaping up for a fabulous

Egan was first in the backstroke with a 1.12.19. That performance qualified her for the Western Mass Tournament. It was her best time in that event this year. McGinn's (1.15.90) third place finish gave the Brownies 10 points. Gallagher managed a fifth in the event.

DeForge swam a 1.23.66 in the breaststroke, which gave her second place. Kunkler, swimming hard, clocked a 1.26.37 to take third. Bates took fourth with a 1.30.33. The score stood at 82-74.

The 400 relay would decide it. Agawam had only one team in the event - Sparveri, DeForge, Robinson, and Egan. Cathedral entered three teams. Sparveri started off the first leg neck-andneck with the Panther swimmers. DeForge came in a few strokes behind the leaders. She gave it over to Robinson, who stayed even swimming in

But the Brownies would have to finish at least second to win the meet. Egan went in, swimming third. She turned on the jets. At the 50 meter mark, she caught the second-place swimmer. At the 75 meter mark, she was even and in a drag race to the finish. A big kick enabled her to just touch out her opponent for second place. The team effort gave the girls the meet, 86-84.

It was an exciting time. We just keep getting better and better," Scofield smiled later.

The AHS boys' swim team (outnumbered as usual) did the best they could. Charlie Roberts, Brendan Kilrain, Nate Adamski, and Matt Francis took a first in the medley relay at 2.06.66.

Kilrain was first in the 200 free at 2.01.61 Adamski was second in the 200 IM at 2.36.20. Roberts set the water on fire in the 50 free, winning in a time of 25.99. Adamski came in sixth in

The kids didn't compete in the fly. Adamski clocked a time of 1.16.58 in the 100 free.

Adamski swam tough in the 500 race. He had a ersonal best 6.08.34 in that race to win it. It came down to the final 25 meters. Nate touched out his Panther foe.

They all swam the 200 relay, winning it easily in

a time of 1.48.21.

Roberts took the top spot in the back at 1.07.04. Kilrain rounded things out for the Brownies in the breaststroke, winning in a time of 1.06.97.

Sadly, the boys have the talent but not the numbers. They might have taken more points in he diving competition, but no board meant no nance there.

Agawam Piranhas Defeat Monson Swimmers In Strong Showing

The Agawam Piranhas swim team won against the Monson team by a score of 465-354 on January 24th at the Agawam Junior High School.

The results included:

Girls 8 & under: Caitlin Hurley, third in 100-yard individual medley. Julie Gorman, first in 25-yard freestyle. Taryn Dooley, first in 25-yard butterfly. Caitlyn Hurley, third in 50-yard freestyle. Taryn Dooley, first in 25-yard backstroke. Julie Gorman, first in 25-yard breaststroke. Boys 8 & under:

The team of Zachary Demers, Adam Deliefde, Shaun Bruso, and Anthony Lee placed first in 100-yard medley relay.

Shaun Bruso, first in 100-yard individual medley. Anthony Lee, first, and Daniel Demers, third in 25-yard freestyle. Anthony Lee, first in 25-yard butterfly. Zachary Demers, first in 50-yard freestyle. Shaun Bruso, second, and Adam Deliefde, third in 25-yard backstroke. Adam Deliefde, first in 25-yard breaststroke. Girls 9-10:

The team of Danielle Poggi, Kelly Follis, Kaitlin Bond, and Lindsy Brennan placed first in the 200-yard medley relay. Tammy Gorman, second in 100-yard individual medley. The team of Tammy Gorman, Danielle Poggi, Jessica Lalli, and Johan-nah Kos placed first in the 200-yard freestyle

Johannah Kos, first, and Jennifer Clark, second in 50-yard freestyle. Tammy Gorman, second, and Kaitlin Bond, third in 50-yard butterfly. Tammy Gorman, second in 100-yard freestyle. Jessica Lalli, first, and Sarah Fini, third in 50-yard backstroke. Johannah Kos, first, and Kaitlin Bond, third in 50-yard breaststroke.

Boys 9-10: The team of Connor Dooley, Anthony Ardolino, Alan Gallerani, and William Barker III placed second in the 200-yard medley relay. Erik Deliefde, first, and Alan Callerani, third in 100-yard in-dividual medley. The team of Erik Deliefde, Mat-thew Styckiewicz, Daniel Serna, and Jeffrey Lagasse placed firs in the 200-yard freestyle

Matthew Styckiewicz first, Connor Dooley, second, and William Barker III, third in 50-yard freestyle. Jeffrey Lagasse, first, and Alan Gallerani, third in 50-yard butterfly. Jeffrey Lagasse, first, and Daniel Serna, third in 100-yard freestyle. Erik Deliefde, second, and Connor Dooley, third in 50-yard backstroke. Anthony Ardolino, first, and Matthew Syckiewicz, third in 50-yard breaststroke.

The team of Allison Morris, Lindsay Carey, Katie Gorman, and Rebecca Carey placed second in the 200-yard medley relay

Jillian Kos, first, and Katie Gorman, second in 200-yard freestyle. Lindsay Carey, second in

50-yard freestyle. Katie Gorman, second in 50-yard butterfly. Brittany Theriaque, first in 100-yard freestyle and second in 50-yard backstroke. Jillian Kos, first, and Rebecca Carey, second in 50-yard

The team of Lindsay Carey, Allison Morris, Brittany Theriaque, and Jillian Kos placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Boys 11-12:

The team of Daniel Adamski, Thomas Gorman, Kyle Sullivan, and Paul Lagasse placed first in the 200-yard medley relay; and the team of Phillip Prouty, David Torrey, Kyle Henry, and Matthew Gen dron placed second.

Thomas Gorman, second, and Paul Lagasse, third in 200-yard individual medley. Daniel Adamski, first, and Kyle Sullivan, second in 200-yard freestyle. Michael Lalli, first, and Matthew Gendron, second in 50-yard freestyle. Paul Lagasse, second, and Kyle Henry, third in 50-yard butterfly. Kyle Sullivan, first, and Phillip Prouty, second in 100-yard freestyle. Daniel Adamski, first in 50-yard backstroke. David Torrey, first, Thomas Gorman, second, and Michael Lalli, third in 50-yard breaststroke.

The team of Michael Lalli, Kyle Henry, David Torrey, and Phillip Prouty placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay. Girls 13-14:

The team of Kimberly Chmura, Amanda Bois-

sonneault, Hilary Golas, and Daveen Macsata placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.
Hilary Golas, first, and Rebecca Morytko, second in 200-yard freestyle. Daveen Macsata, second, and Ashley King, third in 50-yard freestyle. Jennifer Grimald, first in 100-yard butterfly. Rebecca Morytko, tirst, and Daveen Macsata, second in 100-yard freestyle. Jennifer Grimaldi, second, and Kristine Archambault, third in 100-yard backstroke. Amanda Boissonneault, first, and Kimberly Chmura, third in 100-yard breaststroke.

The team of Kimberly Chmura, Amanda Boissonneault, Rebecca Morytko, and Hilary Golas placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay; and the team of Kristine Archambault, Jennifer Grimaldi, Ashley King, and Renee Couture placed second.

Nathan Adamski, first in 200-yard freestyle. Kevin Grimaldi, second in 50-yard freestyle. Michael Follis, second in 100-yard freestyle. Nathan Adamski, first, and Kevin Grimaldi, second in 100-yard backstroke. Michael Follis, first in 100 yard broadtatake. in 100-yard breaststroke.

Girls 15-18: Hilary King, second in 50-yard freestyle and first in 100-yard backstroke.

Boys 15-18: Matthew Francis, second in 200-yard freestyle, second in 50-yard freestyle, and second in 100-yard freestyle.

AHS BOYS' HOOP - from Page 41...

The Falcons Wouldn't Fly Away...

But the Falcons wouldn't fly away. After a session of trading hoops, they were up 51-44 with 3:30 to play. At that point, Agawam had gone 8-18 from the field. Minnechaug, hanging on, was 5-13. Strole, off a skillful dish from O'Quinn, made it 51-46. But the Falcons answered at the other end, frustrating the Brownies.

Marc Pedraza hit both ends of a one-and-one with 2:48 left, bringing the Brownies to within five at 53-48. Hanscom had a steal six seconds later but missed the lay-up. Pedraza missed the tip-in but got fouled. He missed both charity shots and the Falcons dodged a bullet.

A Strole deuce made it 55-50, Minnechaug, at the 1:20 mark. But Agawam, with time definitely not on its side, was getting desperate. A big offensive board by Minnechaug's Brandon Mahoney resulted in two made free throws and a 58-50 lead.

A Pedraza tip-in made it 58-52. Agawam, with 40 seconds left, had no choice but to foul. They did and the Falcons answered the call, hitting 8-10 from the stripe down the final stretch. Freshman guard Sean Mahoney had five of them on six attempts. That effort capped the Brownies. It was a non-league game. Agawam fell 3 " Minnechaug rose to 3-10.

Grumoli, obviously not pleased with his club's veral performance, did find some bright spots. "Strole is getting better all the time," he smiled, adding, "I thought we played better than we had year against the zone.

AHS next faces a strong Longmeadow team at

home on Friday night.
AGAWAM INDIVIDUAL STATS:

STROLE - 22 pts, 10-12 fgs (83 percent), 2-6, 9 rebounds, 3 off; HANSCOM - 11 pts, 5-10 fgs plus 1 three (50 percent), 0-2 fts, 2 steals, 1 rebound; O'QUINN - 6 pts, 2-6 fgs (33 percent), 2-3 fts (66 percent), 1 reb; PEDRAZA - 7 pts, 2-6 including a three (33 percent), 2-2 fts, 4 rebs, 2 off; ALBANO - 4 pts, 2-3 (66 percent), 0-2 fts, 1 reb; GALLAGHER - 2 pts, 1-4 (25 percent), 3 rebs, 1 off; LYMAN - 2 pts, 0-1 fgs, 2-2 fts, 3 rebs, 2 off; WHITE - 1 pt, 0-1 fgs,

AGAWAM TEAM STATS: Fgs, 21-44 (47 percent) plus 2 threes; fts, 9-20 (45 percent); rebounds, 24, seven off; turnovers, 11; points allowed off tur-

MINNECHAUG TEAM STATS: Fgs, 23-51 (45 percent) plus 4 threes; fts, 13-20 (65 percent); rebounds, 30, 11 off; turnovers, 9; points allowed off

Agawam High School Freshman & **Junior Varsity Hoop News**

by Dave Rollins **Sports Editor**

The Agawam High junior varsity girls had no trouble with the Holyoke girls on Monday night,

Kaitlin White was the high scorer for the young Brownies with 12. Sarah Lottermoser had eight.

The JV boys' team lost to Minnechaug on Tuesday night, 61-54 Harlin had 12. St. Jean had 10.

The freshman girls lost to Amherst on Tuesday afternoon, 43-28. Their record stands at 7-2.



Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis **Outdoor Writer**

Cod Trip Set For February 21st...

The winter cod trip looks like a go for the 21st of February, 1998. Area anglers will be fishing on either the Gail Frances or The Lady Frances out of Points, Rhode Island.

The cost of the trip is \$40, and tackle rental is available for a cost of \$5 (for those who do not

have their own rods and reels).

February 21, 1998 is an open boat date and reservations are not required, so we will be meeting at 5:15 a.m. at the dock in Point Judith.

DIRECTIONS

From Rt. 2 East in Connecticut, go past Foxwoods to Rt. 78 East. Turn onto Rt. 1 North in Westerly, Rhode Island. Travel north on Rt. 1 for approximately 16 miles to the Point Judith exit.

Turn right at the end of the exit and continue to the traffic light. Turn right onto Rt. 108 South and follow it for approximately 3.5 miles. Take a right (onto Galilee Escape Road) at the traffic light past the Fishermen's Memorial Park (on right).

At the end, turn right (Great Island Road) then left an State Street. The Frances Fleat's hoats are

left on State Street. The Frances Fleet's boats are docked in front of Finback's Restaurant.
COD ACTION REPORTED

Captain Frank Blount of the Francis Fleet out of the Point Judith/Galilee, Rhode Island area reports that weather had kept most of the fleet in port until last Friday. With a spell of good weather, anglers reported good catches of both and and pollegic Bettom humping with clam prove cod and pollack. Bottom bumping with clam proved productive for most everyone on the trip.
Winter cod anglers have traditionally been a

hardy bunch, but the conveniences of modern life have happily invaded the realm of cold weather fishing. The boats of the Francis Fleet have been equipped not only with a heated cabin, but heated seats and heated railings.

While some of us yearn for the "good old days" when life was simpler, frostbitten fingers and a frozen bottom can be related to the "good old days" category.

While life may indeed have been simpler in the "good old days," certain anatomical parts certainly do appreciate the comforts of modern day party

Agawam Babe Ruth League Announces **Upcoming Sign-Ups**

Sign-ups for the 1998 Agawam Babe Ruth Baseball League will be held on the following

* February 7th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Agawam Town Library on Cooper Street (just below the High School).

* February 25th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Faolin Peirce Room (located behind the Police Station on Springfield Street).

The League is open to all individuals who will have turned 13 years of age by August 1, 1998, but have not turned 16 years of age by the same date. The fee for participation is \$75.

For further information, please contact Bill Walsh at 786-7701 or John DeBonville at 786-3588.

Dal Molin Fund Plans Hockey Benefit At Falcons' Game

The Thomas Dal Molin Scholarship Committee will be having a Hockey Benefit on Saturday, February 21st at the Springfield Civic Center.

As in the past, the first game will be Teddy Bear vs Teddy Bear Alumni at 5:30 p.m., and at 7:30 p.m., the Springfield Falcons vs the New Haven

It is also "Hall of Fame Night." Come bring the whole family for an evening of entertainment and fun. The proceeds are used for scholarships for Agawam High School students.

You support is greatly appreciated. Tickets are \$8 and can be obtained by calling Kip at 786-9773

or Mary Lou at 786-1959.

ADVERTISER NEWS

Daggett Gymnasts Attend Invitational Meet Held At Springfield College

Twenty-six girls from Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics recently attended the John Hancock Invitational at Springfield College.

In the first session, level 10 gymnast Michelle Germano of West Springfield was propelled by her 9.2 on vault to third place all-around with a score of 32.9. Kadee Bramley of South Windsor took second all-around with a 33.7 (9.15 on vault), and Jamie Scott-Smith of Southwick took Gold with a 34.75

Level 9 saw Brionne Lancour of Feeding Hills dance and tumble to Benny Goodman's "Sing, Sing, Sing," good for a 9.05 first-place score on floor and second all-around (34.9). Other scores of note: Sarah Liebowitz, 33.25 (fourth place); Noelle Marquez, 33.20; and Lissa Bramley, 32.85. Level 8, 11-12 age group had Leigha Hancock of Enfield, 31.8, and Mary Kate Zajac of Agawam, 31.1.

The 13-14 age group saw Chicopee's Devon Ehret score a 9.1 on floor ("Russian Sailor's Dance") that helped her to Silver in the all-around

(34.25). Andrea Babbin of Agawam took fifth place all-around (33.35), which included a stellar floor performace to "Flight of the Bumble Bee" that earned her a 9.05.

Other outstanding scores were Paula Ballantine's 33.15 for sixth place; Emily Sharp's 32.4; Whitney Quist's 30.9; and Lisa DiRosa's 30.8.

In the second session, Level 6, ages seven to nine, gymnast Jen Stack of Enfield swept all events and her 34.60 took the Gold. Caitlin Ranstrom of Feeding Hills grabbed the Bronze with a 31.05, and Abby Hazen of Southampton scored 26.65.

The 13-14 age group scores were: Sharon Kurpaska, 28.95; Rachel Humphrey, 28.8; Rachel Zmuda, 28.1; and Karis Gale, 27.2. Sarah Kantany

took second place on vault with a 8.8.
In the 13-14 group, Kari Sullivan of West Springfield took the Silver with a 33.9, and Joy Higley of Suffield scored a 30.0.

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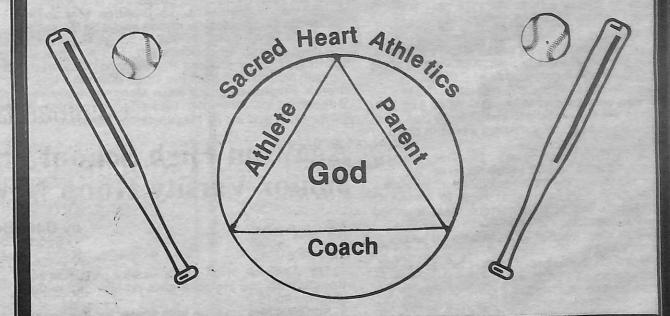
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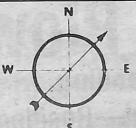
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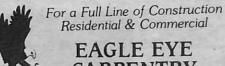
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